

STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE



Thursday, October 9, 2014

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FLOOR SHOW

Dancers delighted at town hall revamp



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TITANIC DAY

History on parade in documentary



PAGE 6

Meeting with bus bosses in route row

DOZENS of residents angry after a bus service was axed will voice their concerns to transport officials at a public meeting next week.

Bus operator National Express and Centro are facing residents to discuss the end of the 297 service.

The service, which ran through Old Hill, Cradley Heath and Quarry Bank to Russells Hall Hospital, was ended earlier in the summer. Officials blame a fall in passenger numbers and problems with reliability.

Residents have already held a meeting over the issue and the meeting with transport bosses will take place next Thursday (October 16) between 11.30am and 1pm at Birch Coppice Methodist Church, Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank.

Meeting organiser Councillor Bryan Cotterill said: "It was a major bus route and this has affected a lot of people. Whether they can reinstate the service I'm not sure but maybe they could meet us halfway somehow."

National Express replaced the 297 with two separate services as it said the length of the route made it unreliable.

But since the service was removed more than 600 names have been gathered on a petition calling for its reinstatement.

Pay to park village plan

PARKING charges will be introduced in Hagley under plans aimed at boosting the number of spaces available for shoppers in the village.

Concerns have been raised that many shoppers currently go elsewhere because of lack of parking.

Hagley Parish Council has announced plans to allow people to park for four hours for free but charge after that period. It comes after a deal to allow the Hagley Community Centre car park to be used for general parking.

TOWN STARTS WAR ON LITTER

Date set for the opening of store

BUDGET supermarket chain Lidl is has announced plans to open its new store in Kingswinford in time for Christmas.

The metal frame for the new store on the Duckworth Trading Estate, in Stallings Lane, has now gone up.

Work on the store and its a 115-space car park got under way in the summer after planning permission was granted by Dudley Council last year.

Larger

The firm submitted revised plans earlier this year which received further approval, allowing the German-owned chain to incorporate a larger area by taking in further vacant units around the trading estate.

Lidl spokesman Daniel Clarke said: "I can confirm the Kingswinford store is due to open in early December 2014."

The store is expected to create 15 full-time and 25 part-time jobs.

Some traders in nearby High Street were concerned about the scheme but councillors said they believed the supermarket and would provide 'healthy competition'.

The new store, which is to be single-storey, will cover an area measuring around 23,034 sq ft.

Council sell office sites

SIX former offices in Dudley have been sold as part of a project aimed at raising around £3.5 million for the cash-strapped council.

A total of 12 sites have been deemed surplus to requirements by Dudley Council.

The buildings, which include properties in St James's Road, Ednam Road and Priory Court, have been earmarked for 90 homes. Sale of the buildings should net the authority around £467,000 per year savings.

Pub in bloom wins award for display



Ted Etheridge with his colourful display outside the Britannia Sports Bar in Wollaston

A BLOOMING marvellous flower display has brought success to a Wollaston pub.

The Britannia Inn sports bar has been named Midland Pubs in Bloom winner.

The contest was arranged by Enterprise Inns and featured dozens of entries across the Midlands.

Judges gave The Britannia top marks following weeks of graft by Ted Etheridge, the father of the pub's landlord Wayne Etheridge.

Ted is now semi-retired after running several pubs in the Stourbridge area over the last 30 years including The Prince of Wales, Hagley.

The 70-year-old said on days he is not helping down the pub, he manages his own allotment and all of the flowers on display outside the pub, in High Street, were grown himself before being planted in pots and hanging baskets.

It is the second year the pub has received an award for its displays and Ted said he was delighted with the award coming hot of the heels after Stourbridge winning gold in the Heart of England In Bloom competition this summer.

"We just want to make our pub memorable and hope that when people come in for a drink and see the displays they think that The Britannia is somewhere they would come again," he said. "We have had so many nice comments from people passing by. It is a riot of colour and I think the display has been very good this year."

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Customers Tickled Pink for charities

SUPERMARKET workers are backing a campaign to raise funds for breast cancer awareness.

Staff at Asda Brierley Hill are getting behind Asda's Tickled Pink campaign. They will be holding events throughout October to raise vital funds and customers can support the campaign by purchasing one of the pink products available.

Asda launched the Tickled Pink campaign back in 1996 to raise money to help improve the lives of people with breast cancer.

It supports the Breast Cancer Campaign and Breast Cancer Care.

Michelle Edwards, community life champion at Asda Brierley Hill, said: "Asda has a long and proud history of supporting breast cancer awareness month through our own Tickled Pink campaign, which has been going over 18 years, and has helped to raise more than £40 million for both these amazing breast cancer charities."

"We hope the people of Brierley Hill can get fully behind our fundraising campaign as we all know someone or a family that has been affected by cancer. We hope we can reach our fundraising target."

Horses die in collision

FOUR horses were killed when they were hit by a lorry tractor unit on a busy route near Stourbridge.

The animals died on the A449 at Stourton, near Stourbridge.

The driver of the Volvo vehicle was uninjured in the crash.

Police were called to the road at around 7.50pm on Wednesday of last week.

It took around an hour before the road could be reopened.

Anyone with any information about the crash is asked to call police on the 101 non-emergency number.

Choir celebrate

A CHOIR will be taking to the stage for a special anniversary concert.

Viva Musica, which is celebrating 25 years since its formation, will be performing at Dudley Town Hall on October 18 with guest tenor Wynne Evans.

Contact 08703 207 000.

Move to make medical appointments online

PATIENTS in Dudley will be able to book hospital appointments electronically as part of a £4.5 million investment in services.

Options being discussed including booking online or via mobile phone apps. It is part of a plan to cut down on paperwork, make it easier for patients and improve links with GP practices. Paula Clark, chief executive of Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, said the new system would enable people to book their own appointments.

The IT (information technology) investment would also enable patient records to be made available electronically, so they could be shared more easily between medical staff.

Easier

There would also be improvements to enable tests to be ordered more quickly and make it easier for multiple appointments to be scheduled for patients who need them.

Ms Clark said: "The exact detail is yet to

be confirmed but there will be opportunities to make the new system more accessible and improve the way we care for patients. It will allow patients to access information about themselves and their appointments.

"It is surprising how patients can book holidays or order their shopping online but they cannot easily access healthcare services.

"Currently, complex healthcare records are kept in paper form and only one healthcare professional can access those records

at any one time. With the new electronic health record, several healthcare professionals will be able to access records and input into patient care simultaneously and in real-time, therefore, patient records will always be up-to-date."

She added: "We will also be able to share patient records with GPs and other healthcare professionals across the country and so if, for example, a Dudley patient has an accident on holiday in Cornwall, their health record can be transferred immediately."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier Inn plan a December opening

WORK to build a £6 million hotel and restaurant on a major gateway to Stourbridge is on course for completion before Christmas.

The 80-bed Premier Inn in Birmingham Street due to open on December 1.

The neighbouring Brewers Fayre pub restaurant is set for completion on November 17.

The development by Stourbridge-based Barberry, will bring 65 jobs.

The buildings have been finished, roof and windows fitted and now the interior is being decorated.

Let's hear it for Dudley the dog

A FORMER mayor of Dudley has funded a new 'hearing dog' as part of a £50,000 bumper fundraising year in office.

And the six-month-old black Labrador has been given the name Dudley in honour of the borough.

Councillor Alan Finch raised almost £50,000 during his year in office which has been split between Hearing Dogs for Deaf People and White House Cancer Support, Dudley – the highest amount raised by a Dudley borough mayor.

Homes on former furniture factory

A DISUSED furniture factory in Cradley Heath will be demolished and replaced with housing.

Sandwell Council has approved plans to knock down the DJ Leather Furniture factory in Coxs Lane and replace it with four three-bedroom homes.

The popular annual event is being held on October 18 and 19 at the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street.

Dozens of narrowboats

will line the canal near the

18th century warehouse.

The free event offers a

wide range of activities, and

regularly sees more than

10,000 narrowboat enthusiasts

in attendance.

Rally

The trust's finance director Chris Dyche said preparations for the event were going well, and is the latest in a number of canal festivals that have taken place in the Black Country this year, such as the Parkhead Festival which took place last month.

This year events will include a rally of boats along Stourbridge Town Arm Canal, boat trips along the Stourbridge Canal, a real ale tent, vintage and classic vehicles, steam engines and traditional organs.

There will also be a craft fair and rides for children.

Poet wins big prize

A POET from Sedgley has won £5,000 for her debut collection about the area where she grew up. Ex-teacher Liz Berry's collection Black Country won the Felix Dennis prize in Forward prizes for Poetry.

Residents at a troubled care home given new hope

COUNCIL bosses say they hope new owners will be brought in to take over a troubled private care home – and that the elderly residents will be allowed to stay.

Staffordshire County Council has met with the directors of the company which runs The Homestead at Prestwood, near Stourbridge, and negotiations are now under way to transfer the care side of the business to new owners.

Residents feared they could be forced to move out of the home after 'serious concerns' were raised about the firm's finances.

But the county council is now hopeful that it will not be necessary for any of the residents to consider looking for alternative accommodation.

The care home, which has at least 25 residents, is owned by Elysian Care Ltd which also runs Knoll House in Penn, Wolverhampton. The firm, which also owns The Mill Hotel in Alveley near Bridgnorth, has been unavailable for comment.

The council stepped in to pay staff wages and ensure that the care of residents, aged up to 96, at The Homestead continues.

In a statement the authority said: "The county council stepped in to ensure care continues uninterrupted after concerns were raised about the financial viability of the business, and met with families from the Homestead.

"The county council is

hopeful residents can continue to receive the care provided by the extremely loyal and dedicated staff."

Staffordshire's cabinet member for social and health care Councillor Mark Sutton said: "Our absolute priority is the health and wellbeing of these residents who are happy and settled in this home. Moving elderly, frail people to alternative accommodation is always very much a last resort and we are pleased that discussions are well under way for the transfer of the business to new owners."

The Homestead has 13 residents registered with Staffordshire County Council and 12 with Dudley Council.

A meeting was held by the county council at The Homestead on Thursday. More than 100 people attended.

"The county council is

Towpath is cleaned up

A STRETCH of canal towpath has been spruced up by a team of 60 young people from schools and colleges in the Black Country.

The youngsters aged between 15 and 17 picked up litter, cut down trees and removed overhanging vegetation from the side of the Dudley No2 Canal in Halesowen.

The event had been organised by Coombeswood Canal Trust in conjunction with the National Citizenship Scheme.



Ready for open weekend later this month, Chris Dyche at The Bonded Warehouse

Trust is preparing for open weekend

THOUSANDS of people are set to flock to the Black Country next weekend for the annual Stourbridge Navigation Trust open weekend.

The popular annual event is being held on October 18 and 19 at the Bonded Warehouse in Canal Street.

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There will also be a craft fair and rides for children.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



TOLD you so. If you celebrated October 1 by chucking away your car tax disc before it expires, then hoik it out of the bin and stick it straight back on your windscreen. For it is now revealed that ANPR, the automatic number-plate recognition equipment designed to detect tax-dodgers, manages to misread about 1.2 million number plates every day.

COME to think of it, if the ANPR cameras get so many number plates wrong, how can the technology honestly be described as number-plate "recognition"? That's not recognition; it's barely a nodding acquaintance.

THE excitement of the Scottish referendum persuaded thousands of folk to get themselves on the electoral roll in order to vote. Now comes news that some councils are using this information to chase them for council tax. Typical. You think you're voting for the New Jerusalem and you end up in Dodge City.

SO let's get this right. A new Tory government will ensure that, by the year 2020, everyone in England will be guaranteed a GP appointment with the doctor of their choice, seven days a week. Do we have to book the appointment now?

MOSTAFA Kashe (seriously) is suing Rod Stewart after being hit on the nose by a football kicked into the audience by the rock star at a gig in Las Vegas. Strange case. By now, almost the entire global population knows that, when confronted by a football, you catch it, kick it or head it. Only in America do you nose it.

WHO could hear Home Secretary Theresa May's plan to silence the preachers of hate without being reminded of Mrs Thatcher denying the IRA "the oxygen of publicity"?

Back in the 1980s radio and TV were banned from broadcasting the voices of Republican spokesmen such as Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness. So we had news reports (younger readers will probably not believe this) of these characters talking, with their voices removed and their words dubbed in by actors with Northern Irish accents. Bonkers but true.

ACCORDING to the RAF, its shiny new Typhoon, costing us taxpayers £110 million each, is "a multi-role combat aircraft, capable of being deployed in the full spectrum of air operations." So why is the Iraq operation being left to half-a-dozen 1980s vintage Tornados?

TALKING of old warhorses, I was sad to read that the world's only complete Horsa glider, as used on D-Day and at Arnhem, is gathering dust in a hanger at the RAF Museum at Cosford. A team of volunteers worked hard to restore the mighty assault glider and it's not even on public display. The news reminded me of a D-Day veteran of the Glider Pilot Regiment, Alf "Tug" Wilson, who before he died a few years ago, raged against "health-and-safety gone mad." Alf saw absolutely no reason why members of the public shouldn't enjoy flights in Cosford's restored Horsa with him (then in his 80s) at the controls. "Beautiful aircraft," he told me. "We could land them on a sixpence." And at least, with only one Horsa, Alf wouldn't have to worry about a repeat of his D-Day experience. As he was landing in Normandy through a curtain of anti-aircraft fire, another Horsa crashed on top of him with "one hell of a bang," but they all got down safely. Nothing to make a fuss about, he said. We don't breed 'em like that any more.

BE honest. Did you spend the last few halcyon days of September worrying about the horrors of global warming? Or did you just lie back in the hammock with a pint of ale, a barbecued sausage and think, this is pretty damn good?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Hospitals prepare for midwife strike

PLANS are being drawn up at hospitals in preparation for the midwives strike later this month.

Hospitals face a four-hour walkout by members of the Royal College of Midwives on October 13. While births are not expected to be affected, there could be changes to post-natal and ante-natal services.

Strike action was backed by 82 per cent of members in protest at

the Government decision not to pay all NHS staff a one per cent pay rise, as recommended by an independent body. Hospital bosses are in discussion with unions to draw up plans to deal with the impact of the walkout.

Paula Clark, chief executive of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust which runs Russells Hall, said: "The Dudley Group has been working closely with senior managers and front line staff to minimise disruption for women."

ers and front line staff to minimise disruption for women.

"We do expect some of our midwifery staff to take part in the strike, however, we would like to reassure women that there will be no compromise to patient safety and that every effort will be made to ensure minimal disruption to our services. Women who are in labour during the strike period will see no

change to their care and will give birth as usual, whether in hospital on our delivery suite or midwife-led unit, or at home if they have chosen a home birth.

"We would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused to scheduled patients but hope they will understand that we have to focus our resources on women needing immediate care."

Time running out for theatre campaigners

AN APPEAL has gone out to help raise funds to save Dudley Hippodrome as a deadline looms for submitting a fresh business plan.

Around £750 has been raised by the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome group but they need £5,000 to start setting up a charitable trust to access grants in a bid to rescue the venue from demolition.

Time is of the essence for the group which wants to host talks with an organisation keen to run the site.

Entertainment company Events That Rok has expressed an interest in running the venue and submitted its own plans.

The firm was co-founded by businessman Jonathan Kendrick whose father Vic Kendrick owned the Castle Hill theatre in the 1960s when it was revamped as a casino club.

Friends chairman Gordon Downing aims to broker talks with the company.

Dudley Council will allow the parties inside once to survey the building in a bid to compile a more complete business plan on transforming the venue for use again as an entertainment venue.

Mr Downing said: "We want to get together with representatives from Events That Rok. We believe it will happen soon when Mr Kendrick is back in this country.

"We need to get towards £5,000 to start the process of becoming a charitable trust.

"If anyone could get help with that would be great."

By Andrew Turton

Meanwhile, Mr Downing says that talks are continuing with representatives of veteran comic Ken Dodd who has offered to appear in a concert to help the Hippodrome campaign.

This comes as the group have until the end of this month to submit new plans to run the venue in a bid to save it from demolition.

Dudley Council claims an assessment has revealed around £400,000 would have been spent removing asbestos from the Hippodrome in order to make it safe.

Regeneration boss Councillor Judy Foster says a decision on the Hippodrome's future must be taken by the end of the year to avoid further deterioration of the building.

Anyone who can help the Friends of Hippodrome Group with legal advice or donations is asked to contact campaigners via the Save Dudley Hippodrome Facebook page.

Views on service sought

PEOPLE in the Black Country are being asked to share their views on West Midlands Ambulance Service.

Bosses have launched their Friends and Family Test on their website.

It is aimed at people who have called 999 and been treated by a paramedic on-the-spot without having to go to hospital as well as anyone taken to a hospital appointment by the service's non-emergency Patient Transport Service.

Feedback will be used to make improvements.

Emergency ambulance staff and patient transport crews will also be able to give patients paper questionnaires.

Devilish fun for theatre group



Witches of Eastwick Kimberley Fletcher, Sarah Rose and Kerry Davies with Mitch Bastable

THE devil is in the detail for Brierley Hill Musical Theatre Company as they stage musical black comedy The Witches of Eastwick.

The show, which is based on a novel and a 1987 movie about modern day witches, has been rewritten with new songs since the first version hit the stage.

Director Jez Luckins, of Trinity Road, Stourbridge said: "This will be the regional premiere of that version. The revised version is a lot tighter."

Mr Luckins said although the show covers some dark themes, which make it unsuitable for younger children, it is a comedy.

"It is a morality tale at its heart, the main theme is 'be careful what you wish for,'" he said.

"It is something a bit different and saucy and we have some great effects."

It opened at Brierley Hill Civic Hall last night (Wednesday) and continues nightly to Saturday, when there is also a matinee. See www.bhmtc.co.uk or call 0845 658 8195.

Old pub building is getting a revamp

A FORMER pub in Dudley town centre building is being revamped in a £163,000 project.

Dudley Council has announced plans for the Albion pub building, now a hair salon and a cafe, in Stone Street.

It will be the latest property to be restored as part of its Townscape Heritage Initiative scheme.

Windows

Work includes repairs to historic windows in the project due to be completed later this year.

Regeneration boss Councillor Judy Foster said: "Dudley is blessed with a number of historic buildings and this is latest in a number of restoration works that we are undertaking in order to preserve and enhance the town centre.

"Coupled with the market place works, we are confident that we can keep Dudley on the map as a busy and popular shopping and leisure destination for many generations to come."

This scheme joins projects at Bogarts hair and beauty on Wolverhampton Street, Baylies Hall and Fountain Arcade in Tower Street, Charlton House in New Street and at the old Co-op building.

Getting active at half-term

LEISURE centres across Dudley borough will host a series of events throughout the October half-term.

Activities at Dudley Leisure Centre will run from October 28 to October 31 including a bouncy castle and court sports.

The Activezone will provide children aged eight to 14 with dance mats, games consoles, craft sessions, swimming and team games for £15 per day, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Halesowen Leisure Centre and Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge will also have special activities.

Open evening

A LOWER Gornal secondary school is holding an open evening tonight (Thursday) for parents choosing a school for children entering year seven next September.

Ellowes Hall Sports College in Stickley Lane will be opening its doors from 6pm to 8.30pm.

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Grant will pay for emission reductions

A PROJECT to improve air quality and cut down fumes across Dudley borough has been awarded a grant of £158,000.

Dudley Council will be using the cash from the Department for Transport to fund specialist exhaust emission catching equipment.

Businesses will be able to sign up for the scheme which will see vehicles fitted with the devices, which trap harmful nitrogen oxide.

Coaches

Ten coaches operated by Prospect Coaches (West) Limited, based in Lye, will be the first to have the equipment installed.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health, said: "This grant will fund special devices to cut down specifically on nitrogen oxides and in turn improve air quality."

"I hope other local companies will see this and consider the business benefits of demonstrating they care about the impact they make on the environment."

Environmental health officers will monitor the borough for emission levels to gauge the impact of the devices once they have been fitted.

Albion hero statue date

A BRONZE statue of Baggies legend Tony 'Bomber' Brown will be unveiled in a ceremony at The Hawthorns on November 6.

After joining the club as a schoolboy, Brown made 720 appearances and scored 279 goals between 1961 and 1981.

The statue is the work of sculptor Jonathan Wylder, whose subjects have ranged from Mother Theresa and Yasmin Le Bon to a mermaid for the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes.

Mr Brown said he was humbled to be chosen for the honour.

Fountain to flow

A £150,000 project to bring Dudley's 19th century fountain back to life has been approved. Funding has been secured for the work that will see water flowing from the fountain for the first time in almost 50 years as part of the £6 million revamp of Dudley market.

Duke is visiting health and help centres



Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester

THE Duke of Gloucester will officially open an £8.5 million health centre during a visit to Stourbridge this week.

The queen's cousin Prince Richard was due to unveil a commemorative plaque at Lion Health in Stourbridge yesterday (Wednesday).

It is one of several stops he will make during a tour of the West Midlands including visits to Halesowen and West Bromwich.

The grade II listed former Foster, Rastick and Co site, in Lowndes Road, was converted into the medical practice and opened in April. The Georgian foundry is famed for making the Stourbridge Lion steam engine,

which in 1829 brought a new era to America as the first engine to run on rails.

The Duke was also due to visit the Hope Centre in Halesowen on the same day to present volunteers with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The centre in Andrew Road was founded by Wendy and Camilla in January 2010 after the Lighthouse Project was disbanded in 2009. All 27 volunteers at the centre have been awarded the honour.

The Duke was also opening the restored Oak House Barns at the Oak House Museum in West Bromwich.

A £1.4million project has seen two listed

barns renovated and converted into a new visitor centre, reception, toilets, shop and cafe.

The restoration work has been funded between Sandwell Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

It is hoped the revamp will help attract an extra 30,000 visitors a year to the Oak Road site.

The Duke, aged 70, is 23rd in line to the throne. His elder brother Prince William of Gloucester died in 1972, aged 30, when the plane he was piloting crashed at Halfpenny Green, near Bobbington.

NEWS IN BRIEF

War talks held at three libraries

THE First World War will be explored as part of history talks in Dudley libraries this month.

On October 24 Keith Clinton will look back at the war's impact on Birmingham at Stourbridge Library. Then visitors can hear what life was like for an infantryman in a talk by Steve Rollason at Dudley Library on October 29.

Halesowen Library will also host a talk on the last Wednesday of the month by Dr Brian Dakin on family stories entitled 'Tales from Nana Poll's'. All talks start 2.30pm and cost £3 including refreshments.

Anthem singer's peace message

THE singer of the band behind the Black Country Day anthem, I Vow to Thee Black Country, is to visit the hospice where proceeds from the charity single will be donated.

Gornal musician James Stevens, front man of Dudley folk band The Empty Can, will visit Compton Hospice in Wolverhampton today (Thursday) and will perform for patients.

The trio are back with a new single We Gotta Get Outta Here to highlight International Peace Day.

Free car wash run by church group

MOTORISTS can have their vehicles washed for free during a community event in Dudley.

Primrose Hill Congregational Church, in Chapel Street, Netherton, is hosting the event on Saturday between 11am and 1pm.

One of the organisers, Hayley Ball, founded Halifords stores at Amblecote and Oldbury which have helped by donating equipment.

New shop opens to help hospice

A NEW clearance store which will help raise funds for Compton Hospice, in Wolverhampton, has opened on the High Street in Cradley Heath.

Shoppers can buy 10 items for £10. The shop is open from 9am until 3.55pm Monday to Saturday. For more information contact Compton Hospice Trading on 0845 2255 497.

Magic for charity

THE Fellowship of Christian Magicians UK are planning a fundraising evening of magic in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association at Hagley Free Church on October 18.

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.'

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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IN MY VIEW



with Mark Andrews

PRIVATE Eric Hanham was shot by a sniper during the Battle of Neuve Chapelle in France in March, 1915.

However, the bullet was stopped by a small silver tobacco tin in his pocket, and Pte Hanham not only survived the conflict, but went on to serve in the Second World War too.

His tobacco tin, complete with German bullet, goes under the hammer in March and is expected to fetch £1,000. Proof positive that smoking is not always bad for you.

□□□□

A PINT a day keeps the doctor away, according to the latest research from the University of Athens.

According to the latest research, moderate beer consumption can reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes by 30 per cent. If it is true, it is brilliant news. There are few things more civilised than a pint of Black Country ale with a good meal at the end of the working day.

But I am only just getting used to last year's advice from the Department of Health, which recommended having at least two alcohol-free days each week.

So what is the answer? I suppose one could drink alcohol-free beer on the two dry days, giving the best of both worlds, although the disadvantage is that they often taste more like washing up liquid. An alternative theory is that nobody really knows what is good for us.

□□□□

For many in the Black Country, Saturday trips to the Arcade Toyshop in Dudley have been a fundamental part of their childhood. Be it Chopper bikes, Meccano or the amazing glass cabinet where the Dinky cars revolved on electric shelves, it is ingrained in the memories of thousands of people.

Now, after almost half a century, the shop is set to close as a result of a council regeneration scheme. The facade where the shop is based is being returned to its original 1920s style, and owner Alan Caswell says the alterations to his shop are the 'final nail in the coffin'.

Mr Caswell, from Pattingham, is magnanimous, saying the changes are for the long-term good of the town. But really? How can anything which results in the loss of one of the most popular shops in an ailing town be anything other than a disaster?

The same mistakes are being repeated in towns and cities all over. While the shutters descend on an ever-increasing number of shops, local government seems convinced that all the ills of the high street can be solved with smart cast-iron street furniture and block paving.

You can have the most beautiful market place and the most elegantly revamped shopping arcade but if there are no shops to draw people in, nobody will ever see them.



The replica anchor on the back of a truck



The lead horses are guided along the route



Film maker David Hale beside the replica anchor

The day a Titanic task was repeated

ALICE CHARLES on a film looking at the day when the send off for the Titanic anchor was recreated

IT was a snapshot of the glory days of Black Country engineering.

History was recreated when thousands lined the streets to watch as a replica of the anchor from the doomed Titanic was hauled through the town where it was made 99 years earlier.

The re-enactment followed the route the real anchor, cast by Hingley's of Netherton in 1911, took in reverse and was filmed for a five-part history series for Channel 4 and National Geographic channel.

And now the momentous occasion has been preserved for future generations in a DVD from a Dudley production company, The Return of the Titanic Anchor: A Day to Remember.

Original

The original 16-tonne anchor was cast to the old Dudley train station by 20 shire horses, taken by train to Fleetwood and shipped across the Irish Sea. From there, the anchor continued its journey to the Titanic's shipbuilders Harland and Wolff in Belfast.

For the recreation in 2010, the replica travelled from Castle Hill, Dudley to Halesowen Road, Netherton, as crowds lined the streets.

But it wasn't without its problems as the parade, made up of 20 shire horses, ground to a halt near Dudley Zoo due to difficulties navigating the exit to the car park.

Following a two and a half hour delay, the procession began again but stopped again near the Flood Street island as the anchor began to slip from its cart.



Crowds line the street as teams of horses pull the Titanic replica anchor

The shire horses had to be detached and instead walked on in front as the cart was pulled by a tractor to a temporary plinth off Halesowen Road.

The 18ft long replica is now sited in the town as a reminder of the past.

The documentary's director and producer David Hale, aged 58, from Netherton, said the recreation captured the imagination of the town.

"More than 10,000 people turned up to watch. I've never seen so many people in all my life," he said.

The anchor began to slip from its cart.

"We have a local actor, Victor Meadows, reading an article from the Dudley Chronicle in 1911," said Mr Hale, who works at Davideo.

The documentary is presented by Luke Perry and includes commentary from Dr Kenneth Mallon, who has written

"Hingley's was the world's foremost anchor maker. It's phenomenal to think about."

Just under an hour long, the film also includes archive footage of workers at Hingley's and of the actual anchor itself on the liner.

"We have a local actor, Victor Meadows, reading an article from the Dudley Chronicle in 1911," said Mr Hale, who works at Davideo.

The documentary is presented by Luke Perry and includes commentary from Dr Kenneth Mallon, who has written

ten two books on the subject.

The documentary began in 2010 as a direct result of the Channel 4 series, which was made by Twenty Twenty Productions in London.

Mr Hale has been making documentaries since 1987 for a variety of clients including Wolverhampton City Council, and the team worked on the project alongside their other work.

The documentary includes 20 minutes of archive footage, some of which proved difficult to get.

"My colleague Richard Beard, who sadly died two years ago, found rare archive footage from the 1920s and 1930s in a skip but it was on nitrate," he said.

Fortunately, through a contact at the BBC, the team successfully managed to convert the footage to video for inclusion in the documentary.

Meanwhile, the production company may return to the subject matter in the future.

"I've always wanted to do a drama documentary at some point," Mr Hale said.

The 2010 reconstruction was a poignant moment due to Netherton's strong links with the Titanic. The ill-fated liner sank on its maiden voyage in April 1912, with the loss of more than 1,500 lives.

There were in fact two anchors made, one for the side and another for the centre of the liner.

When it was made, the Titanic's centre anchor was, at the time and for some time to follow, the world's largest anchor ever forged by hand.

In 2011, Dudley Council and other organisations put together a whole series of events and exhibitions to mark the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. Church bells were rung and the procession was followed by a civic ceremony.

The Return of the Titanic Anchor: A Day to Remember is available on DVD at £14.95, and is available from www.davideo.co.uk or call 01384 235 009.

WEEK IN POLITICS



with Daniel Wainwright

THE Tory conference was supposed to be the chance to unite the party against a common foe before the next General Election.

Unfortunately for David Cameron, the Birmingham gathering exposed what everyone knows – the Tories are fighting on too many fronts.

Defections to UKIP overshadowed proceedings every day. Even the Sunday Telegraph, usually sympathetic to the Conservatives, led with the headline Tory Crisis as delegates started their four-day event.

The defections of Mark Reckless and former London deputy mayor Richard Barnes were embarrassing as was William Cash joining UKIP.

Mr Cash is the son of ardent Eurosceptic Tory MP Sir Bill Cash, who represents Stone.

Sir Bill described his son's actions as a 'monumental misjudgement', saying that it is only the Tories that can deliver a referendum on Europe.

It's frustrating for him given how much he's had to endure within his own party as he tried to get the leadership to take the issue seriously – something it is now doing as it promises a referendum if the Tories win a majority.

The problem for Sir Bill and for the Conservatives is that Europe is no longer the only thing that is seeing people want to move to the 'kippers'. The younger Mr Cash is miffed at planning policies he says damage tourism and heritage and was unimpressed by David Cameron's decision to drop Owen Paterson as Environment Secretary.

There was some relief for the Conservatives as UKIP's group leader on Dudley Council resigned from the party. But Ken Turner and his wife Hazel are not planning a return to the Tory fold, having left the Conservatives last year.

Michael Fabricant, the outspoken Lichfield MP looks forward to some form of a reconciliation between the Tories and their UKIP 'cousins'.

Nigel Farage might think his tanks are parked on Labour's lawn, but with all the Tory defections it is starting to look more than ever like an alternative to the Conservatives rather than to the others. That's only going to strengthen Labour's chances.

ONE of the surprising things about the Tory conference was how remarkably upbeat it was. The opinion polls point to a Labour victory, despite Ed Miliband forgetting to mention the deficit in his own conference speech.

There was the embarrassment of minister Brooks Newmark resigning after sending a picture of his bits to a journalist, posing as a party aide.

But one MP who certainly had a spring in his step was South Staffordshire's Gavin Williamson. He's been named in the top 100 people 'on the right'. Not even the former PM Sir John Major makes the list anymore.

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Fitting dates are filling up quickly with only a few dates left before Christmas, (beware of anyone who can fit you in quickly as they are usually not busy for a reason) so pay us a visit soon to avoid disappointment.

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Debit

Spake on radio for the Black Country

I ONLY realised when I was interviewing Luke Perry the public art sculptor that I have been hosting the Omma n' Chain show for Black Country Community Radio for nearly 12 months.

What started as recording a few pieces of my own work for them has developed into (and I'm not ashamed to say) a show that hopefully in some way has carried on from the one Carl Chinn did on Radio WM.

It's a great tragedy we have lost his contribution to the Brummie and Black Country culture through the Sunday show but hopefully in time the Omma

n' Chain can keep that flame burning. Being a novice I am indebted to Steve Welch and Dave Brownhill and all the staff at the station who have steered me through the shows till we have a wide and varied format of both guests and music from the region.

I was amazed when Steve informed me we have getting on for 50 shows under our belt and have guests lined up till Feb 2015. I am always looking for original music, community groups, historians and people with great stories to come on and talk about their passion. The station has other presenters

such as The Fizzogs, Emma Rollason (Dolly), Steve and Dave themselves, among others who all work voluntarily to build up a network of programmes that represent the Black Country.

The Omma n' Chain is a community show on a community station and it is open for anyone to get in touch and let me know what they do, or send a CD of original good quality recorded material and we will use it on the show. If people want to contact me email b.dakin@aston.ac.uk.

B DAKIN (AKA Billy Spake Mon)
Tividale

Hospital car park too pricey

THIS week I attended at Russells Hall Hospital, parking ticket in at 2.21pm, out again at 3.30pm, fee £3 for one hour and nine minutes.

I understand that NHS pays several millions of pounds per year for lease of this hospital which apparently is owned by private investors.

Is all of the parking fee per year counted as part of that payment or is it on top of what will amount to billions over 30 years.

Until mid to late afternoon those parking places are occupied several times over so the yearly total must be colossal.

If the Government is arranging for doctors to be in surgery for seven days per week then it is also as vital now for them to cap the amounts paid by patients and visitors to hospitals — it is getting out of hand.

J BROOKES
Wollaston

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

How can cat killers live with themselves?

I WRITE with disgust and disdain of the person, or persons, who are poisoning the cats in Gornal.

How could they possibly even think of carrying out such a dreadful crime?

Perhaps he or she would like to know of the heartache caused to our granddaughter by their actions.

In 2011 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and was bought two kittens who, along with family and friends, were always there for her to focus on. They really helped as she went through her treatment.

Approximately four months ago one of them was poisoned and despite of the vet's treatment died.

Now last weekend, the remaining one has been poisoned. Again the vet's treatment could not save him.

Don't think you have obliterated another two dearly loved pets as she is determined to have two more. By the way both cats were poisoned in the same way, so perhaps it will be possible to find out who is carrying out such an awful act.

How can you possibly live with yourself?

L HAZELDINE
Swindon

Sick of the pie-crust promises

CONFERENCEs abound, the pre-election promises are being spouted — more for the NHS, more for everyone, more houses, more employment for the young, tough on law, tough on benefit fraud.

Give me what you have but these promises been promised before! Of course they have, did any of the parties keep these promises? Of course not.

It really is time now to tell the promise makers that enough is enough, their promises are like pie crusts, very easily broken. It makes no difference who wins the next election, whoever wins will have a nice earner, the people in opposition will have a nice earner but the poor man/woman on the street will still struggle.

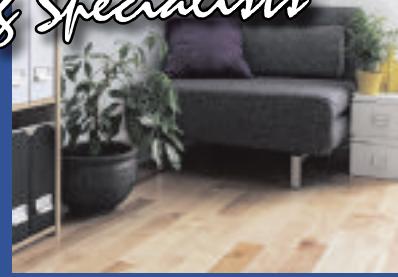
Let's tell these aloof politicians we are sick and tired of see-saw politics. There must be more then Conservatives then Labour, Conservatives then Labour, etc.

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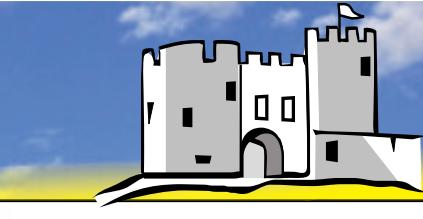


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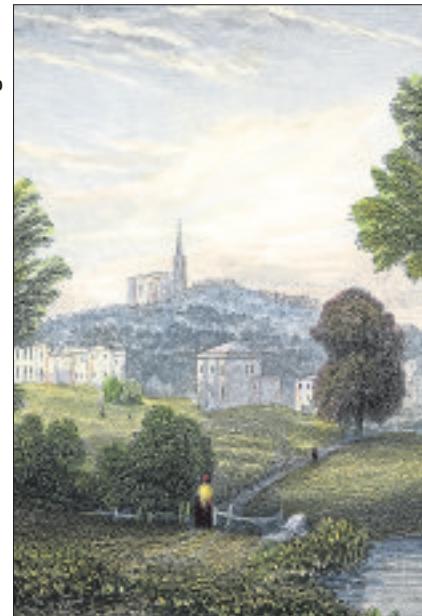
An atmospheric image of canal boats and chimneys in Dudley (1840)



A view of the line through Penkridge showing St Michael and All Angels Church



A view of Wolverhampton from Penn Road showing St Peter's Church



A view of Walsall from the north, showing the hill-top St Matthew's Church in the distance

From the tranquil fields to industrial heartland

TRAVELLERS from a bygone era would sit back and relax as they were transported from the tranquil fields and mansion houses of Staffordshire into the industrial heartland of the Black Country.

As the Wildfire Locomotive chugged through the countryside, passengers watching from the windows would be treated to the sight of deer frolicking on the estates of the gentry and the towering spires of the region's churches and cathedrals – with the smoke of the foundries beckoning them onwards towards the city.

For those train travellers, Osborne's Guide to the Grand Junction Railway was the 19th-century answer to today's Lonely Planet guidebook, offering detailed maps of the railway, alongside hand drawn illustrations of the hidden gems they could see from their carriages of the route.

MEMORY LANE

by Deborah Hardiman

First hitting the shelves in the 1830s the book chronicled the journey of Edward Cornelius Osborne through the region on one of the very first steam locomotives. The book is now the inspiration for Wildfire through Staffordshire – an updated version of the historic text, which is now delighting a whole new generation of readers.

Landmarks

The book covers the journey from Birmingham to Liverpool or Manchester along the country's first trunk line, the Grand Junction Railway, which was travelled first by the Wildfire locomotive through the heart of the Black Country and Staffordshire.

The track passed near many landmarks including stately homes, churches, and factories taking in both sweeping views of the countryside and the smoking chimneys of the industrial

heartland that lay beyond. The book features rarely seen antique illustrations and rare maps from the period along with 22 commissioned poems by Walsall's Ian Henery who described the book as the Lonely Planet of the 1830s.

It is written by Paul Leslie Line and Matt Langham, of Mapseeker Publishing. The book pays homage to the contributions of industrialists Matthew Boulton and James Watts, who set about making improvements to the steam engine in the 18th century contributing much to industrial revolution that made its stamp on the world.

The book gives a lively commentary of the affairs of the day and descriptions of many towns including Bilston, Dudley, Walsall, Wednesbury and Darlaston providing some of the history of the communities and how the people lived.

Copies of Wildfire Through Staffordshire are on sale at Waterstones stores, at Mapseeker studio, and online at Amazon priced at £19.99. Details on www.mapseeker.co.uk



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Park bosses get skates on to open this month



In the air is Stourbridge pro BMX rider Josh Cox watched by the team behind the Unit3Sixtyskate park A £200,000 skate park will open in Stourbridge later this month

Unit3Sixty had hoped to welcome skaters to its venue in Mill Race Lane in September, but owner Gavin Pardoe said opening had been delayed until October 24.

The park will have a 22,000 sq ft skating area, DJ academy, offices and a cafe.

The venture, which has been supported and funded by Dudley Council, has also created 10 jobs.

Mr Pardoe, an international cycling champion, said: "I had been hoping to get it open during the summer holidays but as I've done nothing like this before I came across some unexpected delays and the date has been put back.

Half-term

"We were waiting for some money to come through and for some parts to be delivered. But now we are on track and aiming to have it open during the school half-term break."

The facilities will be a world championship standard indoor skate park with ramps, rails and jumps.

The project has been supported by a £40,000 community enterprise fund from Dudley Council and was drawn up in response to calls from young people for a new skate park in the town.

The former Ramparts skate park was closed when its home in the basement of the former multi-storey Bell Street car park was demolished to make way for Tesco.

Mr Pardoe said: "There is plenty of excitement surrounding the town for the park. We can't wait to get it open because people have been waiting a long time for something like this in the town again."

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Businesses are backing pencil case campaign



Campaign supporters pick up and pack pencil cases for children at Dudley Council for Voluntary Service

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to help provide schoolchildren across Dudley with one of the most basic but essential classroom resources — a pencil case.

Dudley Council for Voluntary Service are teaming up with local businesses to launch the Pick-Up-and-Pack-a-Pencil-Case appeal.

Three firms have already pledged their support.

The first offer came from Brian Lacey, of Alfabet Ltd. which is the

UK's largest pencil case manufacturing company, which has provided 500 free cases.

Paul Billingsley, of Accord Steel Cladding of Kingswinford, has pitched in £250 towards the campaign to buy key items to fill the cases including protractors, sharpeners, erasers, drawing compasses, felt-tip pens and, of course, pencils.

Brett Harris of Blaze Hairdressers, Kingswinford, has donated both his time and some of his staff to help pack the 500 pencil cases that would benefit the children on a daily basis.

Eileen Fielding, of DCVS Volunteer

Centre, said: "We very much hope the Pick-Up-and-Pack-a-Pencil-Case-Appeal is successful because it shows the big difference a small donation can make to an under-privileged child.

"A child who lacks the basic resources they need to fully participate in school life can very quickly feel isolated and disconnected.

"We have 500 pencil cases to be filled and, ideally, we would like to include a scientific calculator as well, but we will need further financial donations to enable us to do that."

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE Don't be disappointed - choose Choices Windows

The home improvement market is changing and the demand for more choice in colour and suitability of PVC-U doors and windows is growing. Fashionable additions such as orangerys are increasingly desirable, as more people look for ways to improve their home.

Established since 1994, Tipton Windows & Conservatories Ltd, trading as Choices, believe that the latest trends are important, but quality products and exceptional service will always be paramount, which this family run business have proven over two decades.

Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director, Nathan Beddoes started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today. He explains his passion:

"I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install."

With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 20 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

"Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services," explains Nathan.

"For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries," says Nathan.

One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having been recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

"Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out."

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return.

"We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of," remarked Rick.

Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers.

"Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless muted 'National Trust' tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white," explains Nathan.

Fitting new PVC-U windows can be a good choice for the environment as well as for your home. Replacing dated double glazing can help save money on heating bills and reduce the carbon footprint of a residence.

"We offer A-rated energy-efficient windows and doors which can help save up to £250 from heating bills in the first year alone. They not only reflect heat back into the house, but also retain heat from solar gain," remarks Nathan.

"As a company we pride ourselves on giving old fashioned value for money and excellent service, we can undertake the majority of jobs and because we manufacture in house at our premises unlike the majority of our local competitors it enables us to have full control so we can manage your project from start to completion ensuring your experience is stress free".

"After many years in the Double glazing business we have seen a lot of competitors come and go, unfortunately leaving many customers without any warranty, after parting with their hard earned cash. Any customer who is considering having any home improvements should choose carefully and do their homework on the company they are considering, ensure if you part with money upfront it is protected by a Fensa approved deposit insurance scheme, ask to visit previous customers but most importantly don't be fooled by the salesmen's tactics of a tempting 'sign on the night low price offer' that the double glazing industry is notorious for" advises Nathan.

The old sayings are always the best - after a low price is long forgotten, poor quality long remains".

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Toy shop boss says he has made decision to sell up

IT has been the go to place for everything from Rubik's Cube to Pokémon for almost 50 years but a landmark toy shop in Dudley is set to close unless a buyer can be found.

The Arcade Toy Shop has been a part of the Fountain Arcade centre since 1967. But owner Alan Caswell, who runs the store with his sister Lynne, has decided to sell up due to the £200,000 revamp of the centre.

It is being restored to its former glory and architects want to bring its white entrance off Stone Street back to how it would have looked in the 1920s. But that means re-installing a doorway that directly entered the toy shop and Mr Caswell said the work will cause too much upheaval.

Since announcing his decision he has been inundated with messages of support from loyal customers.

Mr Caswell said: "Selling up isn't

an imminent thing but it will probably happen at some point in the early New Year.

"I am absolutely for all the works going on in Dudley and think they are fantastic, bring them on. Dudley has been sorely let down in recent years and these works can only be a good thing. But this door is the final nail in the coffin for me."

There has been an outpouring of support for the store online on both Twitter and Facebook with MP for Dudley North Ian Austin saying it would be a "tragedy" if one of the Black Country's last traditional toy shops closed.

Mr Caswell said: "People are being so kind and I am so appreciative. We had a lot of people say to us that we should start a petition but the decisions have already been made, and I have already made my decision too."



Calling it a day — Fountain Arcade toy shop owner Alan Caswell says his mind is made up

Revamped pub opens after a year

A PUB that was closed for more than a year has been reopened following a takeover and major revamp.

The Red Lion, in Brettle Lane, Amblecote, was taken over by the Furious Pub Company earlier this year from Marston's.

The firm has carried out a complete redesign of the pub interior, laid out a decking area and painted the front of the pub white and red.

The pub opened last Friday night.

Buzz

Landlord Philip Guy was approached by the pub company to run the pub following working as a manager at the Robin Hood Inn in Stourbridge.

Mr Guy said: "We are confident the pub will do very well."

"There has been a buzz about the place before opening and good interest from people wanting to give the place another go."

"My aim is to become CAMRA pub of the year for the Stourbridge area in a couple of years."

Praise for support of cancer patients

DUDLEY'S hospital trust has been named the most improved in England for cancer patient experience.

A survey was carried out by NHS England asking people for their views about their experiences while being treated in hospital.

They were asked questions including whether their diagnosis and treatment options were explained clearly to them, whether they felt supported in their care and whether they felt they were treated with respect.

A league table of the top ten most improved hospital trusts for cancer support has now been published by Macmillan Cancer Support. The survey was based on patient experience, not medical care.

The charity says it believes patient experience is as vital as treatment to quality of life.

In Dudley, cancer treatment is provided at Russells Hall Hospital and also in the community at patients' homes. Among improvements introduced by bosses are Saturday appointments.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "We are delighted by the news that we have been named as the most improved trust in England for cancer patient experience by Macmillan Cancer Support.

"We always strive to offer our patients the best possible experience whilst in our care, and this fantastic achievement is testament to the hard work of our specialist cancer teams over the past year.

"Our teams have been working hard with Macmillan

to offer the best possible experience whilst in our care, and this fantastic achievement is testament to the hard work of our specialist cancer teams over the past year.

Supervision for the jobless under scheme

AROUND 700 people looking for work in the Black Country are spending 35 hours a week searching for employment as part of a new Government trial.

Job seeker allowance claimants from across the region have been picked to take part in the project which was launched this month. Those who don't co-operate face having their benefits axed.

It sees job hunters having to attend training centres from 9am to 5pm, five days a week, for 13 weeks.

They will then undergo training in interview techniques, job searching and writing better CVs.

They will also be expected to turn up on time every day which Government officials say will get them in the habit of the working life.

The pilot project is being run by the Department of Work and Pensions across 64 UK job centres, 14 of them in Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and Sandwell.



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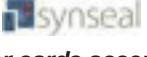
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Newly-weds will take centre stage in musical



Adam and Liz Compton, who are the leads in Cradley Heath Amateur Operatic Society's next production **A NEWLY-MARRIED** couple will take to the stage for the first time together as husband and wife in a new production in Brierley Hill.

Adam and Liz Compton are the leads in Cradley Heath Amateur Operatic Society's (Chaos) production of Mack and Mabel at the Civic Hall.

The show centres on the romantic relationship between Hollywood director Mack Sennett and Mabel Normand, who became one of his biggest

stars. The pair performed opposite each other in A Christmas Carol in 2012 when they played the Cratchits, but this will be the first time they have played lead roles together.

Mr Compton joined the company in 2008 for Chaos's centenary production of South Pacific, while Mrs Compton has been a long-time member of the group and performed with them as a child. The pair were married at Himley Hall on July 26.

"They met during rehearsals and it was obvious that they were going

to get together right from the start," said Paul Murdock, a committee member, who plays Hollywood film director Frank Capra in the production.

The society has been performing at the Civic Hall for 50 years and last year won the Birmingham and District Theatre Guild's award for its production of Me and My Girl.

The 1974 musical Mack and Mabel features such songs such as Big Time, Tap Your Troubles Away and I Won't Send Roses.

Mack and Mabel runs from November 5 to 11. For tickets call Brierley Hill Civic Hall on 0121 585 7380.

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Jake lets his songs speak for themselves

Jake Bugg,
Wolverhampton Civic Hall

JAKE Bugg doesn't say much between his songs but let his powerful music speak for itself as he played two nights at a packed Civic Hall this week.

Despite the Modish following, who sang along to Oasis' hit Champagne Supernova before the lights dimmed, 20-year-old Bugg's musical roots go back, way back and beyond his home city of Nottingham.

The singer-songwriter's dark clothing echoes the sombre style of original Man in Black Johnny Cash and, third song in, Storm Passes Away sounds like a Hank Williams honky tonk toe-tapper. Add a nasal twang akin to 1960s Dylan, and here is a young man fit for articles in Mojo or Rolling Stone.

Maybe one day Bugg's bleak depiction of broken Britain, in vigorous songs Messed Up Kids, Seen It All, Slumville Sunrise, Trouble Town and Two Fingers, will be considered equivalent to Woody Guthrie's Dustbowl ballads from depression era America.

Bugg showed his sensitive side in a seated acoustic interlude that led to his boldest ballad, Song About Love, only topped for poignancy by penultimate song Broken. The 80-minute set ended with a footstomping, extended guitar workout version of breakthrough hit Lightning Bolt. No encore, Jake kept it real.



Nao Sakuma as Belle and Iain Mackay as the Beast for Birmingham Royal Ballet

An opulent treat from Birmingham Royal Ballet

REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

Beauty and the Beast, Birmingham Hippodrome

SURELY audiences will never tire of this opulent treat from Birmingham Royal Ballet. A dark and romantic fairy tale choreographed by David Bintley, it is only surpassed by Sir Peter Wright's The Nutcracker and we still have that family favourite to look forward to this year.

The familiar story of redemption through true love, with the wicked huntsman prince cured of his bestial enchantment by the love of Belle, was rendered in full baroque splendour. The beast's haunted castle was a sumptuous creation of tarnished gilt where chairs were moved by invisible hands and strange creatures lurked in the shadows.

Iain Mackay was a powerful Beast, turning on Belle's merchant father with a fearsome rage after the foolish old man plucked an enchanted rose from the castle garden. Offered in compensation to the monster, Delia Mathews made a most elegant Belle, moving from fear to appalled pity to love. Comic interludes were provided by Oli-

ver Till as the pig-nosed Monsieur Cochon, suitor to Belle's selfish sisters played by Ana Alabatshvili and Celine Gittens in full haughty mode. Laura Purkiss stole the comedy credit with her belligerent Grandmere. Bintley's Beauty and the Beast lacks a truly great *pas de deux* but makes up for that in spectacle and invention, such as the moment the Beast slumps to the floor whilst still holding Belle aloft. The sight of the flock of birds in full flow and the Beast's half-animal courtiers at their ball was the stuff of dreams.

This week Birmingham Royal Ballet present *Shadows of War*, three ballets influenced by war. These include *Miracle in the Gorbals*, recreated by Cats choreographer Gillian Lynne (who danced in the 1944 original) as a tribute to its creator the late Robert Helpmann.

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FOR more than four decades, Summerhill Bathrooms have been making customers' dreams come true with a combination of high quality products, attention to detail and excellent service.

Now the Pensnett-based company is applying its know-how and creative flair to kitchens, which can now be viewed in its extensive Bradley Street showroom.

Owner David Spinks said: "Moving into kitchens is an exciting development for us and our customers will receive exactly the same levels of service and expertise.

We're proud to say that 85 per cent of our business comes from recommendations and we're looking forward to showing existing and potential customers around our impressive new displays.

Manager Andrew Fuller and his friendly sales team Kate, Malcolm, Samantha and Shannon are happy to talk visitors through the wide range of products and accessories available, including a selection of doors, worktops and smart storage and appliance options, and arrange home visits.

Sitting alongside the fitted kitchens is one of the largest bathroom displays in the area featuring modern designer, contemporary and traditional styles.

Summerhill Bathrooms supplies the biggest and best names in the business including Ideal Standard, Armitage Shanks, Grohe, Mira and Triton plus Utopia bathroom furniture manufactured in the Black Country.

Bathroom furniture in a dazzling array of door colours, shower enclosures and accessories and corian and marble worktops are also available.

David said: "Customers are greeted by our friendly staff and, if they wish, they can take along a sketch of their bathroom so we can come up with some immediate ideas before producing a CAD design.

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**Macmillan
mile-walk
raises £183**
Wollaston 'E' TWG

AFTER the summer break, the guild reconvened for the September meeting and chairman Jean Latham commenced proceedings by welcoming 54 members and one visitor, Pat McEwan.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Mavis Cooper, a member who loved to draw and paint with the tea and talents section.

Chris Picken had attended the July federation meeting, and she reported that there was a proposal to organise a trip to Liverpool if sufficient interest was shown.

The bowls section representative reported there had been a very closely contested match for the championship shield between Sandra Oliver and Julie Willets, with Sandra emerging as the eventual victor.

The Macmillan one-mile walk resulted in £183 being raised. The 50th anniversary of Wollaston Guild takes place in May 2015, and a celebration is planned as part of the Open Evening. Members with any kind of memorabilia are asked to loan items to Hazel Needham.

Speaker Rosemary Prosser gave an interesting and amusing talk on her family's life on their farms in Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Cornwall, especially relating to her experiences when she started a bed and breakfast business.

Competition winners were Janet Hodder and Lesley Wall, with raffle prizes going to Beryl Blackmore and Janet Tomkins.

Exploring Scott of the Antarctic's life

Penn Townswomen's Guild

**Boat trip part
of a busy year**
Brownhills TWG

GUILD members are having a busy year and have recently had a boat trip on the canal at Calf Heath with good friends and good weather. A pleasant day was enjoyed by all.

Forthcoming events include lunch at Caulderfields Restaurant, Aldridge, on October 23, organised by the South Staffs Federation Committee.

A Black Country Night Out, again organised by the Federation, takes place at Pelsall Community Centre on November 14. November 29 is the date for a Christmas Craft Fair at Aldridge Community Centre.

Guild meetings at the Memorial Hall have interesting speakers lined up including on November 10, Jackie Cocker and Jo Lester from Walsall Arboretum Users Group. On December 1, the guild will follow a short meeting with its Christmas celebrations, including a festive buffet when friends will be competing for the best dressed Christmas table.

The January meeting will include a mock auction.

Meetings are at Brownhills Memorial Hall, Lichfield Road, on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Lichfield Suite. For more information call 01543 360890.

ON August 5, a member of the gardening group gave a First World war-themed afternoon tea which included jam sandwiches. Other members brought mementos of their family who had served in the war.

Later in August another member opened her garden and held a bring and buy afternoon tea for the charity fund.

The main guild began again in September and the chairman welcomed everyone back after the break and then introduced Andrew Loud with his talk on "The end of the Earth, Scott of the Antarctic".

Mr Loud is a very dramatic speaker and held the audience captive as the inspirational story of Robert Falcon Scott unfolded.

The slides showed on one hand the wonder of the glacial scenery and on the other, the despair and suffering of this courageous group of explorers. The story became more dramatic when Mr Loud put on his costume dressed as Scott.

Social Studies speaker for the evening was Ed Shore on Cycling across America. At the time, Mr Shore was a member of Rotary and as he crossed America, members offered him accommodation. He started in San Francisco and aimed to cycle 60 miles a day. He crossed the Sierra Nevada then on to Salt Lake City and endured four days of rain across Colorado. Sometimes he camped and other times he used motels. He journeyed through Nebraska and on to the Missouri river. He journeyed on through Ohio and on to New York. In total he cycled 3,421 miles in 58 days and raised £1,1000 for charity.

A members' only autumn supper takes place on October 22.

New members welcomed

Dudley Widows & Friends Circle

THE club meets every second Saturday each month in the United Reformed Church Hall, Trinity Road, Dudley.

New members will be made very welcome. It is a small friendly group which enjoys social events throughout the year. The next

meeting is on Saturday, October 11, at the usual time of 2.15pm.

For further details ring 01902 881097.

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Caro is ready to Back It Up at NIA

MUSICAL highlights include the rescheduled date by Dutch singer and new mum Caro Emerald at the NIA on Saturday.

John Peel favourites Half Man Half Biscuit are at the Robin 2 in Bilston and punk survivors The Buzzcocks at The Institute, Digbeth, both tonight (Thursday). Tony Hadley, fresh from the Spandau Ballet reunion, will be singing their hits backed by an orchestra at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham on Friday. On Saturday music of The Beautiful South is presented by The South, featuring Dave Hemingway and Alison Wheeler from that fractured band, at the Robin 2. The same venue hosts an acoustic set by Cockney Rebel Steve Harley on Tuesday.

Out for the count with fangs and feet

PREPARE for a dance macabre when director and choreographer Mark Bruce brings his award-winning Dracula to DanceXchange at The Patrick Centre, the studio space in Birmingham Hippodrome. Jonathan Goddard plays the vampire aristocrat in a production that blends nightmare, eroticism and gore, October 15 to 18.

Other dance highlights include Birmingham Royal Ballet's triple bill, Shadows of War, which continues at Birmingham Hippodrome until Saturday. The company then tour before returning to the Hippodrome with festive treat The Nutcracker from November 28 to December 13.

Back to the 1960s for more music nostalgia and miniskirts

Gaga-ing to have a disco ball

FLAMBOYANT queen of dance-pop Lady Gaga brings her Artpop Ball to Birmingham city centre on Wednesday, October 15.

The New Yorker first made her mark on the music scene in 2008 with debut album The Fame, which went on to sell 15 million copies and spawned the hits Poker Face, Just Dance and Paparazzi.

Second and third albums Born This Way and Artpop also hit the top of the charts around the world.

Her latest, Cheek to Cheek, is a collaboration with veteran crooner Tony Bennett featuring classics from the American songbook, inspired by their success with The Lady Is A Tramp on his Duets II album in 2011.

But expect pounding disco pop and arty weirdness in equal measure when she entertains her Little Monsters at the NIA. She returns for a second session on November 13.



Lady Gaga will probably not be wearing the mask to her ball in Birmingham next week

DREAMBOATS and Miniskirts, the sequel to hit 1960s musical Dreamboats and Petticoats, will bring another helping of musical nostalgia to Birmingham next week.

Again written by Birds Of A Feather duo Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, the musical reintroduces the characters from Dreamboats but now it's 1963 and Mersey-beat rules with Beatlemania in full swing as our wanna-be pop stars try to avoid being one hit wonders. With a live band on stage, this jukebox musical at the New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday, October 18, with such hits at Twist and Shout, Be My Baby and Pretty Woman.

Also set in 1963, but on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, is Wolverhampton Grand's autumn mega-hit Dirty Dancing, which builds up to its final climactic lift on Saturday night. Then Consider Yourself in for a treat when South Staffs Musical Theatre Company revive Lionel Bart's Dickens of a musical Oliver! Fagin, Bill, Dodger and Nancy will be picking a pocket or two from Tuesday to Saturday.

The inclusion of John Steinbeck's classic American novel Of Mice and Men on the syllabus is likely to mean lots of youngsters in the audience when Birmingham Repertory Theatre stage a version directed by Roxana Silbert from tomorrow until November 1.

The Rep's Studio feature is the return of Dame Janet



Dreamboats and Miniskirts

Suzman when the veteran actress appears alongside Khayalethu Anthony in Solomon And Marion. Written and directed by Lara Foot, it tells of an elderly woman and the grandson of her ex-servant forging a friendship in the volatile environment of post-apartheid South Africa. It is staged October 16 to November 1.

For The Past 30 Years, at The Rep Door venue from tonight to Saturday, is based on interviews with Birmingham women who worked in the same field for three decades, including health, education and criminal justice.

There is plenty to laugh about

THERE'S plenty to laugh about at the moment.

Pete Johansson is at The Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton tonight (Thursday) and the same venue hosts Tony Law on Friday and Simon Evans on October 16.

Across the city centre at the Civic and Wulfrun, Pub Landlord Al Murray returns on Friday and Paul Chowdhry performs on October 17.

Other comedy gigs include Doc Brown mixing stand up and hip hop at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday.

Birmingham Glee Club

highlights include James

Acaster tonight, Tim Key

on Tuesday, and former

Bilston resident Canadian comic Tom Stade on Wednesday.

Singer Eddi will be the star attraction

FORMER Fairground Attraction singer Eddi Reader will be performing at the Birmingham Town Hall tomorrow (Friday). Her new five song EP Back the Dogs is released next month.

Tickets are £22.50 plus transaction fee. Contact the box office on 0121 780 4949. Findlay Napier is Reader's special guest.

Black Country bluesman Sunjay Brayne is playing at Newhampton Folk Club in the upper room of the Newhampton Inn, Ricles Street, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton, on Saturday night. He will be supported by Eddy Morton. Tickets are £8 in advance or £9 on the night.

LONDON THEATRE & FESTIVE SEASON

LONDON THEATRE – 2 NIGHTS

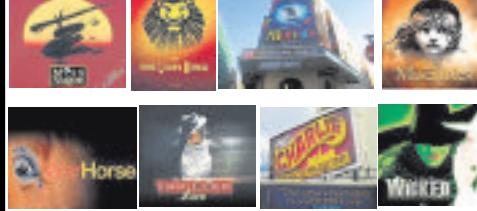
OCTOBER		£
31	Matilda – Hilton	225.00
31	Charlie & Chocolate Factory – Hilton	225.00
31	Jersey Boys – Marriott	189.50

NOVEMBER

7	Billy Elliot – Marriott	199.50
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14	War Horse – Marriott	215.00
14	Jersey Boys – Marriott	189.50
26	London Day – Made in Dagenham	79.50
26	London Day – Matilda	79.50

DECEMBER

27	Jersey Boys – Hilton	225.00
27	Lion King – Marriott	225.00



NOVEMBER

		Days	£
3	Scotland - T & T All Inclusive	5	275.00
3	Isle of Wight – T & T	5	225.00
7	Thursford Christmas Show	3	225.00
7	Paris	4	235.00
10	Doc Martin's Cornwall	5	225.00
10	Scotland - T & T All Inclusive	5	275.00
14	British Memories Inc Duxford	3	189.50
14	York & Manchester Xmas Market	3	135.00
18	Cruise to Holland (Beatles Tribute)	3	159.50
21	Winchester & Gloucester Xmas Markets	3	145.00
21	Winter Wonderland London	3	145.00
22	Mystery Weekend	2	99.50
24	Koblenz German Markets by Cruise Ferry	5	325.00
24	Rüdesheim Christmas Market	4	249.00
28	Festival of Christmas & Bath	3	159.00
28	Bath, Bristol & Worcester	3	149.50
28	St Nicholas Fayre York	3	145.00

DECEMBER

1	Cornish All Inclusive	5	199.50
1	Thursford Christmas Show	4	325.00
5	Bath & Cotswolds	3	145.00
5	Lincoln Christmas Market & York	3	145.00
5	Durham & Lincoln – Redworth Hall	3	179.50
8	Cornish All Inclusive	5	199.50
8	Valkenburg & Xmas Markets	4	285.00
8	Warner's Bembridge – Turkey & Tinsel	5	295.00
12	Rüdesheim Christmas Market	4	239.00
12	Canterbury, Rochester & London Xmas Markets	3	139.50
12	Bath & Oxford Christmas Markets	3	145.00
12	Grassington Festival & York	3	145.00
19	Thursford Christmas Show	3	225.00

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Cheryl & Simon Cowell

The X Factor (ITV, 7.30pm)

The final 12 take their chance to shine in the first live studio round, and with a wildcard twist reportedly planned for the show, they could be joined by four more acts in the battle for a record deal. They will be braving the spotlight to perform a selection of classic hits in a Number Ones-themed show. Confrontations and fierce differences of opinion are inevitable as the judges critique each performance and support the acts in their categories. Simon Cowell mentors the over-25s, Cheryl looks after the girls, Mel B has the boys and Louis Walsh is in charge of the groups. As usual, Dermot O'Leary is on presenting duties for the evening, and will be getting all the reaction from the judges and the contestants.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 9.45 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.15 Live Formula 1: Russian Grand Prix Qualifying. 1.30 BBC News; Weather. 1.40 Football Focus. 2.20 Gymnastics: World Artistic Championships. 3.50 The Great British Bake Off. The Final. 4.45 Celebrity Mastermind. 5.20 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 5.40 Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 **Strictly Come Dancing.** Strictly is nothing if not glamorous, but there are a few extra sparkles this week as the contestants take their inspiration from the silver screen in a movie-themed show, with Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell deciding who is a blockbuster and who is a box-office flop. What's more, the judging quartet are not alone, as for one week only, singer Donny Osmond will be joining the panel to add his thoughts on the dancers' progress. As ever, Tess Daly introduces the twinkle-toed stars, while Claudia Winkleman chats to them after their performances, and watch out for the professionals who kick the show off with a spirited performance of There's No Business Like Show Business. The results are tomorrow at 7.20pm.

8.35 **Doctor Who.** A horrifying creature stalks the passengers of the Orient Express.

9.20 **Casualty.** A couple of old faces return to Holby as the team gathers to say farewell to Jeff, on an emotional day that proves draining for most. Ash can't help but feel guilty about his colleague's death, Dixie throws herself into work and Cal worries when Ethan disappears from his hospital bed to attend the funeral. Meanwhile, Lofty treats an OCD sufferer and a new member of staff makes an impression on Noel.

10.10 **The National Lottery Live.** Gaby Roslin reveals the numbers for the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

10.20 **BBC News;** Weather.

10.40 **Mrs Brown's Boys.** Newlyweds Dermot and Maria argue over whether they should buy their own home, while Grandad hopes to witness his own funeral; (R) National Lottery Update.

11.10 **Film: Armageddon.** (1998) Sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis.

1.30 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.35 BBC News.

BBC2

8.55 **Live Formula 1: Russian Grand Prix Third Practice.** 10.15 **Map Man.** (R) 10.45 **South Africa Walks.** (R) 11.15 **Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook.** (R) 11.45 **The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo.** (R) 12.15 **Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes.** (R) 1.15 **Film: The Gay Divorcee.** (1934) 2.55 **Film: Top Hat.** (1935) 4.30 **Escape to the Continent.** 5.00 **The £100K House: Tricks of the Trade.** (R)

6.00 **Restoring England's Heritage.** Yvette Fielding visits historic London buildings in desperate need of restoration and investigates whether they have a future.

6.30 **Gardeners' World.** Rachel de Thame reports on how she fared over the past year as she attempted to grow cut flowers and Carol Klein helps first-time gardeners Dan and Dominique plant a range of fruit. (R)

7.00 **Flog It! Trade Secrets.** Paul Martin and the show's experts offer advice on making money from antiques and collectibles.

7.30 **Penguins – Spy in the Huddle.** The second part of the documentary sees the chicks hatching and taking their first steps into the world – but as they soon discover, it can be a dangerous place. (R)

8.30 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring is accused of leaving a light burning in the church hall during a blackout, and receives a summons to appear in court. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)

9.00 **01 XL.** Extended edition. Jason Manford, Aisling Bea and Johnny Vegas join regular panelist Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of questions on the interesting topic of location.

9.45 **Film: The Gatekeepers.** (2012) Premiere. Documentary in which six former heads of Shin Bet, the Israeli secret service, share their personal experiences of the life-and-death decisions they were forced to make.

11.20 **The Gatekeepers: Newsnight Debate.**

11.50 **Film: Shine.** (1996) Biopic of David Helfgott, the talented but fragile Australian pianist overwhelmed by the pressure of his father's obsession with success. With Geoffrey Rush and Armin Mueller-Stahl.

1.30 **TOP2.** (R) 2.30 **This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 **CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge.** 6.25 **Pat & Stan.** (R) 6.35 **Pat & Stan.** (R) 6.40 **Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) 6.50 **Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.** (R) 7.05 **Canimals.** (R) 7.10 **Canimals.** (R) 7.20 **Om Nom Stories.** (R) 7.25 **Sooty.** (R) 7.40 **Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) 7.50 **Matt Hatter Chronicles.** 8.20 **Horrid Henry.** 8.30 **The Hungry Sailors.** (R) 10.25 **Murder, She Wrote.** (R) 11.20 **ITV News; Weather.** 11.30 **Storage Hoarders.** (R) 12.30 **The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques.** (R) 1.05 **Tipping Point.** (R) 2.05 **The X Factor.** (R) 3.10 **Film: Jurassic Park.** (1993) 5.35 **Regional Programme.** 5.45 **ITV News.**

6.00 **New You've Been Framed!**

6.30 **The Chase: Celebrity Special.** With Emmerdale star Tony Audenshaw (Bob Hope), former gymnast Beth Tweddle, 2010 Strictly Come Dancing champion Kara Tointon and X Factor judge Louis Walsh. Bradley Walsh hosts.

7.30 **The X Factor.** The final 12 take their chance to shine in the first live studio round, and with a wildcard twist reportedly planned for the show, they could be joined by four more acts in the battle for a record deal. They will be braving the spotlight to perform a selection of classic hits in a Number Ones-themed show. Confrontations and fierce differences of opinion are inevitable as the judges critique each performance and support the acts in their categories. Simon Cowell mentors the over-25s, Cheryl looks after the girls, Mel B has the boys and Louis Walsh is in charge of the groups. As usual, Dermot O'Leary is on presenting duties for the evening, and will be getting all the reaction from the judges and the contestants.

8.15 **Grand Designs.** Natasha Cargill wants to build a house shaped like two enormous periscopes in rural Norfolk, but to obtain planning permission, she has to ensure not only that the materials are sustainable, but also agree to measure the transportation used to deliver them. If these strict criteria are not met, she won't be allowed to live there, and to add to the pressure, she has just £330,000 to spend on construction and six months to complete the project. Kevin McCloud follows her progress. (R)

9.20 **Film: Hanna.** (2011) A former CIA agent raises his daughter alone in the wilderness of Finland, teaching her to be the world's deadliest assassin. When she turns 16, she is sent to carry out her one intended mission, but as she travels the world in search of her target, she is pursued by a CIA operative with a link to her mysterious past. Action thriller, with Saoirse Ronan.

10.00 **Through the Keyhole.** Keith Lemon tours mystery homes and challenges panelists Des O'Connor, Dave Berry and Mylene Klass to guess the identities of the famous occupants. Last in the series.

11.00 **ITV News;** Weather.

11.15 **Film: The Game.** (1997) David Fincher's thriller, with Michael Douglas and Sean Penn.

1.30 **Jackpot247.** 3.00 **The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R) 3.45 **ITV News.**

CHANNEL 4

6.05 **How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.30 **Trans World Sports.** 7.25 **The Grid.** 7.55 **The Morning Line.** 9.00 **Weekend Kitchen.** 10.00 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) 10.30 **Frasier.** (R) 11.00 **Frasier.** (R) 11.30 **The Big Bang Theory.** (R) 12.25 **The Simpsons.** (R) 12.55 **Gadget Man.** (R) 1.30 **Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Newmarket and York. 4.05 **Come Dine with Me.** (R) 4.40 **Come Dine with Me.** (R) 5.40 **Come Dine with Me.** (R)

6.10 **Stars at Your Service.** Pop singer Pixie Lott, DJ and presenter Dave Berry and comedian Tim Vine offer to do whatever is required of them, all in the name of charity. Last in the series.

7.05 **Channel 4 News.**

7.20 **Sarah Beeny's Double Your House for Half the Money.** A couple plan to modernise their 1950s wreck in Altrincham, Greater Manchester, while a problematic project in Knebworth, Hertfordshire, puts the budget at risk. Last in the series. (R)

8.15 **Grand Designs.** Natasha Cargill wants to build a house shaped like two enormous periscopes in rural Norfolk, but to obtain planning permission, she has to ensure not only that the materials are sustainable, but also agree to measure the transportation used to deliver them. If these strict criteria are not met, she won't be allowed to live there, and to add to the pressure, she has just £330,000 to spend on construction and six months to complete the project. Kevin McCloud follows her progress. (R)

9.20 **Film: Hang 'Em High.** (1968) A lawman-turned-rancher is attacked by a lynch mob and hanged for a crime he did not commit, but is rescued before he dies. He returns to his former profession to hunt the mob down, but his desire for revenge clashes with his responsibility to bring them to trial. Western, starring Clint Eastwood, Inger Stevens, Ed Begley, James MacArthur and Dennis Hopper. Part of the Clint Eastwood Season. Edited for television broadcast.

11.25 **Film: 3:10 to Yuma.** (2007) A rancher escorts a notorious outlaw on a dangerous journey to a station where a train will take the prisoner to jail. Western remake, starring Russell Crowe.

1.30 **SuperCasino.** 3.10 **Benefit Brits by the Sea.** (R) 4.00 **House Doctor.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 **Milkshake!** 10.00 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** 10.35 **The Secret Life of Pets.** (R) 11.00 **The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door.** (R) 12.00 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** (R) 1.00 **Film: Vera Cruz.** (1954) Western, starring Gary Cooper. 2.50 **Film: The Magnificent Seven Ride!** (1972) Western sequel, starring Lee Van Cleef. 4.45 **5 News Weekend.** 4.50 **Film: Operation Crossbow.** (1965) Second World War adventure, starring George Peppard. 7.05 **World War II in Colour.** This edition focuses on Japan's early involvement in the war and the country's efforts to flex its muscles around the Pacific. On December 7, 1941, the course of the Second World War changed dramatically when Japanese planes swooped in for a surprise attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, which led to America's entry into the conflict. Subsequently, Japanese forces seized the British colonies of Malaya and Burma, French Indo-China, the Dutch East Indies, the US-controlled Philippines and a string of Pacific Islands. (R)

8.05 **JFK's Secret Killer: The Evidence.** Documentary examining the events during and directly after the assassination of US president John F Kennedy in November 1963, when he was shot and killed in Dealey Plaza, Dallas. The programme uses modern technology combined with rigorous investigative techniques to present a theory as to the identity of JFK's assassin. (R)

9.00 **Film: Hang 'Em High.** (1968) A lawman-turned-rancher is attacked by a lynch mob and hanged for a crime he did not commit, but is rescued before he dies. He returns to his former profession to hunt the mob down, but his desire for revenge clashes with his responsibility to bring them to trial. Western, starring Clint Eastwood, Inger Stevens, Ed Begley, James MacArthur and Dennis Hopper. Part of the Clint Eastwood Season. Edited for television broadcast.

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1.30 **SuperCasino.** 3.10 **Benefit Brits by the Sea.** (R) 4.00 **House Doctor.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 **Film: Kung Fu Panda 2.** (2011) 8.20 **Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel.** 8.30 **Top Gear.** 9.30 **Live at the Apollo.** 10.00 **England's Worst Football Team.** 11.00 **Family Guy.** 1.35 **The Revolution Will Be Televised.** 2.05 **Bad Education.** 2.35 **England's Worst Ever Football Team.** 3.35 **Vodka Diaries.** 4.00 **Close.**

BBC Four

7.00 **Hideout: A Garden for All Seasons.** 8.00 **Horizon: Asteroids – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.** 9.00 **The Code.** 10.55 **Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned.** 11.55 **More Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned.** 12.55 **Horizon: Asteroids – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.** 2.30 **Hideout: A Garden for All Seasons.** 3.30 **Close.**

ITV2

1.35 **Film: Babe: Pig in the City.** (1998) 3.25 **Funnier Ever You've Been Framed!** 4.30 **Film: You've Been Framed! Kids Special.** 5.35 **Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed.** (2004) 7.25 **Film: The World Is Not Enough.** (1998) 10.00 **The Xtra Factor.** 12.00 **Film: Juice.** 11.50 **The Xtra Factor.** 2.35 **Life's Funniest Moments.** 2.55 **ITV2 Nightshock.**

ITV3

1.15 **Film: Columbo: Lady in Waiting.** (1971) 2.50 **A Touch of Frost.** 4.45 **Wycliffe.** 5.55 **Inspector Morse.** 8.00 **Rosemary & Thyme.** 9.00 **Midsummer Murders.** 11.00 **A Touch of Frost.** 12.40 **Bomb Girls.** The Movie. 2.15 **ITV3 Nightshock.**

ITV4

12.45 **British Superbike Championship Highlights.** 1.50 **Film: Superman.** (1978) 4.45 **Film: For Your Eyes Only.** (1981) 7.25 **Live International Football.** 10.00 **Storage Wars.** 11.30 **International Football Highlights.** 1.00 **James Cracknell: Sports Life Stories.** 2.00 **Cheers.** 3.00 **Teleshopping.**

E4

2.00 **Film: City of Ember.** (2008) 4.00 **The Big Bang Theory.** 6.00 **How I Met Your Mother.** 7.00 **Bronx Nine-Nine.** 7.30 **The Big Bang Theory.** 9.00 **Film: Unstoppable.** (2010) 11.00 **The Inbetweeners.** 1.00 **How I Met Your Mother.** 2.25 **Bob's Burgers.** 3.10 **The Cleveland Show.** 3.55 **Happy Endings.**

Film4

11.00 **Indiscret.** (1958) 1.00 **Step Up 2: The Streets.** (2008) 2.55 **Shane.** (1955) 5.20 **Titanic.** (1997) 9.00 **Coming to America.** (1988) 11.00 **The Crazies.** (2010) 1.15 **Flirting with Disaster.** (1996)

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CHOICE



Claire Danes

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Live Formula 1: Russian Grand Prix. **2.15** Sunday Politics. **3.30** Strictly Songs of Praise. **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** The Great British Bake Off. **Class of 2013.** **5.50** BBC News. **6.20** **Countryfile.** John Craven explores the life and work of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, listening to a performance of The Lark Ascending by conductor Christopher Warren Green, and learning about some of the traditional instruments that had an influence on the music Vaughan Williams made. Ellie Harrison also looks back at memorable music-based items from the Countryfile archive, including Matt Baker getting a lesson in bell ringing, Julia Bradbury going on the trail of Benjamin Britten in Sussex and Adam Henson joining the yodelling shepherds of the Swiss Alps. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.20 **Strictly Come Dancing: The Week Ahead.** The two couples with the lowest scores dance again, their fates in the hands of Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell, and Donny Osmond performs.

8.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** The team visits the Roundhouse, Derby, where items include Clarice Cliff bookends, a picture by a renowned British artist and a silver chalice cup with a surprising history.

9.00 **Our Girl.** As the unit prepares to withdraw from Afghanistan, the captain and Smurth both declare their feelings for Molly. But then the entire platoon is sent on one final, terrifying mission.

10.00 BBC News; Weather. **10.30** **Have I Got a Bit More News for You.** Sue Perkins chairs the quiz, with team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton joined by a couple of guest panelists to take a comic look back at recent news events.

11.10 **Film: The Recruit.** (2003) A hacker is recruited into the CIA and is given a top-secret assignment to root out a mole within the agency's training programme. Thriller, starring Al Pacino.

1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.00** Countryfile. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.30** The Great British Bake Off Masterclass. (R) **11.30** The Great British Bake Off Masterclass; (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.35** **Film:** Dances with Wolves. (1990) **3.25** Escape to the Continent. **3.55** Gymnastics: World Artistic Championships. **5.30** Rugby League: Super League Grand Final. **6.30** **Flog It! Trade Secrets.** Paul Martin and the show's experts offer advice on making money from antiques and collectibles. (R) **7.00** **Human Universe.** Professor Brian Cox examines how it was that in a universe made of stars, rocks and endless space, a conscious civilisation was born. His latest adventure takes him from a submerged space station in Star City on the outskirts of Moscow, to Ethiopia, high above in the great Rift Valley, where he encounters the geladas, mankind's distant ancestors. Despite once being Africa's most successful primate, a species who at one time roamed across the entire continent, these days they are found in one just place in the remote Ethiopian Highlands. Cox investigates why these ancestors retreated, yet modern mankind has expanded across the planet. (R) **8.00** **Wonders of the Monsoon.** The effect of the rainy season on wildlife in Asia, with floods forcing animals to flee from a national park in north-east India in search of the safety of the hills. **9.00** **Sacred Rivers with Simon Reeve.** The adventure travels along the Ganges from the foothills of the Himalayas to the Bay of Bengal to explore how India's booming economy has affected its religious culture. **10.00** **Film: Mock the Week.** Rob Beckett, Ed Byrne, Milton Jones and Zoe Lyons join regular panelists Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons on the topical comedy quiz. (R) **10.35** **Film: Kinky Boots.** (2005) A man inherits a struggling shoe factory and finds salvation for his business in a drag artist's need for custom footwear. Comedy drama, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor.

12.15 **Film: Stolen.** (2010) **1.40** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.35** Holby City. (R) **3.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 **CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge.** **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.25** Sooty. (R) **7.40** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.20** Horrid Henry. **8.30** Big Time Rush. **9.00** The Aquabats! Super Show! **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **10.00** ITV News; Weather. **10.45** **Film:** Carry On Matron. (1972) **12.30** The X Factor. (R) **3.00** Downton Abbey. (R) **4.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **4.15** ITV News; Weather. **4.30** International Football. Estonia v England (Kick-off 5.00pm). **7.15** **Sunday Night at the Palladium.** Bradley Walsh hosts the variety show, introducing performances by Art Garfunkel, Jimmy Tarbuck, Sarah Millican, Jimi Ovoo, Diversity, the Pierces and classical comedy trio So I3 Mio.

8.15 **The X Factor Results.** Dermot O'Leary presents the first live results show, including at least one elimination from the latest pack of hopefuls.

9.15 **Downton Abbey.** We are at the halfway point of the series, and matters are hotting up nicely. Schoolteacher Sarah Bunting continues to wage her one-woman war against the Crawleys – before pushing them too far. Violet is too busy getting flustered about Prince Kurakin to notice, and finally confides in Isobel the truth about their shared past. Following her ill-fated trip to Liverpool with Lord Gillingham, Mary makes a decision about their relationship – but does it have any future?

Thomas returns to Downton a shadow of his former self, and Baxter wonders if there's more to his mystery illness than he's letting on. Rose's father Shrimpie (guest star Peter Egan) is also back on the estate – with shocking news.

10.20 ITV News; Weather.

10.35 **International Football Highlights.** Estonia v England. Action from the Euro 2016 Group E qualifier at the A Le Coq Arena in Tallinn, where the sides played their third match of the campaign.

11.35 **Premiership Rugby Union.**

12.35 The Store. **2.35** Motorsport UK. **3.25** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.15** ITV Nightscreen. **7.30** **Film: Guy Martin's Spitfire.** In May 1940, a Mark I Spitfire was shot down and crash-landed on a beach in northern France, where it slowly sank into the sand. The wreckage was finally recovered in the 1980s and stored in France for more than 20 years. Guy Martin joins a two-year project to rebuild the aeroplane, revealing the engineering and skills involved, and providing a fitting homage to the bravery of everyone involved in its service.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 **NFL: The American Football Show.** (R) **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.25** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **7.30** **Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **7.45** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.50** Paw Patrol. **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Wanda and the Alien. **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Access. (R) **10.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** **Film: Daddy Day Care.** (2003) Comedy sequel starring Cuba Gooding Jr. **3.00** **Film: Along Came Polly.** (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston. **4.40** **Film:** Tarzan. (1999) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tony Goldwyn. **6.20** **5 News Weekend.**

6.30 **Alan Carr: Does Do or Do Not.** The Dream Factory opens its doors to another star contestant as Alan Carr goes head to head with the Banker. Joined by friends and family including Melanie Sykes and Michael Underwood, the comedian and presenter tries to guess the values of the famous mystery boxes in an attempt to win up to £250,000 for the Stand Up to Cancer charity. Hosted by Noel Edmonds – with an appearance by the Banker's temporary new employee Angelos Epithemiou.

7.30 **Guy Martin's Spitfire.** In May 1940, a Mark I Spitfire was shot down and crash-landed on a beach in northern France, where it slowly sank into the sand. The wreckage was finally recovered in the 1980s and stored in France for more than 20 years. Guy Martin joins a two-year project to rebuild the aeroplane, revealing the engineering and skills involved, and providing a fitting homage to the bravery of everyone involved in its service.

9.00 **Homeland.** New series. Carrie is back in the Middle East, working as the Chief of Station in Kabul, where she faces a critical decision after receiving intelligence about a prominent target.

10.05 **Film: Law Abiding Citizen.** (2009) A man is forced to witness the murder of his wife and daughter, and is driven to despair when one of the perpetrators walks free at trial. Years later, he begins a campaign of vigilante violence, seeking revenge on the killers and the justice system that failed to punish them, and an assistant district attorney who allowed the defendant to defend the court proceedings. Thriller, with Gerard Butler.

12.10 **Alan Carr: Chatty Man.** (R) **1.05** American Football Live. **1.15** **Film: The Tourist.** (2010) **1.35** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **6.00** **5 News Weekend.**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 **Milkshake! Peppa Pig.** **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Seaside Antics. **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Oily the Little White Van. **7.10** **Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** Paw Patrol. **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Wanda and the Alien. **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Access. (R) **10.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.25** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.25** **Film: Daddy Day Care.** (2003) Comedy sequel starring Cuba Gooding Jr. **3.00** **Film: Along Came Polly.** (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston. **4.40** **Film:** Tarzan. (1999) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tony Goldwyn.

6.20 **5 News Weekend.**

6.30 **Film: Spider-Man 3.** (2007) A sinister alien parasite brings out the web-slinging hero's darker side, filling him with thoughts of revenge and uncanny abilities, the shape-shifting Sandman. Meanwhile, he also has to contend with the challenge of his best friend following in his father's villainous footsteps – and a jealous rival developing superpowers of his own. Superhero sequel, with Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and James Franco. Edited for violence and flashing images.

8.55 **Gotham: Exclusive Preview.** A look ahead to the crime thriller based on characters from the Batman comics that starts on 5 tomorrow night and follows Jim Gordon's rise from rookie detective to commissioner. (R) **9.00** **Film: Law Abiding Citizen.** (2009) A man is forced to witness the murder of his wife and daughter, and is driven to despair when one of the perpetrators walks free at trial. Years later, he begins a campaign of vigilante violence, seeking revenge on the killers and the justice system that failed to punish them, and an assistant district attorney who allowed the defendant to defend the court proceedings. Thriller, with Gerard Butler.

12.10 **Film: Alien Hunter.** (2003) **1.35** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **6.00** **5 News Weekend.**

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 **Formula 8.** **8.15** Doctor Who. **9.00** Come Fly with Me **10.00** Family Guy. **10.45** Bad Education. **11.15** The Revolution Will Be Televised. **11.45** American Dad! **12.30** Film: Black Sheep. (2006) **1.55** Bad Education. **2.25** The Revolution Will Be Televised. **2.55** **Impactical Jokers.** **3.25** Bad Education. **3.35** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Crossing England in a Punt: River of Dreams. **8.00** Rome: A History of the Eternal City. **9.00** Mechanical Marvels: Clockwork Dreams. **10.00** The Sky at Night. **10.30** Film: Elles. (2011) **12.05** Imagine – Jimi Hendrix: Hear My Train a Comin'. **1.35** Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC. **3.25** Mechanical Marvels: Clockwork Dreams. **3.35** Close

ITV2
7.00 Wild West (1999) **3.20** The X Factor. **5.50** The Xtra Factor. **6.55** Film: Back to the Future (1985) **9.15** The Xtra Factor. **10.15** Tricked. **11.15** Bad Bridesmaid. **12.20** Film: Not Another Teen Movie (2001) **2.10** False Start. **2.45** Teleshopping. **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
1.25 Film: Columbo: A Stitch in Crime (1973) **3.05** Film: Carry On Cruising (1962) **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple. **7.00** Lewis. **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety. **10.00** Film: Changing (2008) **12.55** William and Mary. **2.35** World Kitchen. **3.00** Movies Now. **3.10** ITV3 Nightscreen. **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
6.30 Motorway Patrol. **7.00** The Car Chasers. **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union. **9.00** Film: Mortal Kombat: Annihilation (1995) **10.50** Film: Basic (2003) **12.55** River Monsters. **1.55** Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors. **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen. **3.00** Teleshopping

Film4
1.15 Film: Wild West (1999) **3.20** The X Factor. **5.50** The Xtra Factor. **6.55** Film: Back to the Future (1985) **9.15** The Xtra Factor. **10.15** Tricked. **11.15** Bad Bridesmaid. **12.20** Film: Not Another Teen Movie (2001) **2.10** False Start. **2.45** Teleshopping. **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

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MONDAY

The Descent, Channel 5, 10.55pm

A woman recovering from a personal tragedy joins a group of friends on a caving expedition. However, their adventure takes a horrific turn when they find themselves trapped in an unexplored cavern, where savage creatures are lurking in the shadows. Horror from Dog Soldiers director Neil Marshall, starring Shauna Macdonald, Natalie Mendoza, Alex Reid and Nora-Jane Noone. (2005)

TUESDAY

Elizabeth: The Golden Age, ITV, 10.40pm

Queen Elizabeth I faces threats at home and abroad, as Mary, Queen of Scots plots against her while the King of Spain builds a vast armada to undertake an invasion of England. Unable to reconcile her feelings for the dashing Sir Walter Raleigh with her duty to her country, the monarch engineers a romance between the courtier and one of her ladies-in-waiting. Historical drama sequel, with Cate Blanchett, Clive Owen, Geoffrey Rush and Samantha Morton. (2007)



The Descent, Monday, Channel 5, 10.55pm

WEDNESDAY

Secrets of an Undercover Wife, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A newlywed wife goes undercover to find the truth when her husband is arrested and convicted of murder and embezzlement. However, while trying to clear his name, she uncovers troubling evidence that links his business to the Mob. Crime drama, starring Shawnee Smith and Michael Woods. (2007)

THURSDAY

A Trick of the Mind, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman discovers a private eye is spying on her husband. When she confronts the detective, he claims her spouse is holding secrets back and that her life is in danger if she remains with him. She faces a dilemma over who to believe and how to uncover the truth without revealing her suspicions. Thriller, starring Alexandra Holden and Stacy Grant. (2006)

FRIDAY

Couples Retreat, ITV, 11.10pm

A couple on the brink of divorce sign up for relationship therapy on a tropical island, but find they can save money if they persuade their friends to join them. Three more couples go along for the holiday, thinking they do not need any help – but the unconventional treatment soon exposes cracks in their relationships. Comedy, starring Vince Vaughn and Malin Akerman. (2009)

Rookie detective is doing things by the book

If you ever wondered what a pre-Batman origins story would look like filtered through the mind of The Mentalist creator Bruno Heller and helmed by CSI veteran Danny Cannon, then this is it.

One of the most talked about new dramas of the autumn, Gotham centres on brave, earnest new detective James Gordon (Ben McKenzie).

Eager to prove himself, he is partnered with the brash police veteran Harvey Bullock (Donal Logue), and the pair stumble upon Gotham city's highest profile case – the murder of local billionaires Thomas and Martha Wayne.

Gordon meets the sole survivor at the scene of the crime – the Waynes' 12-year-old son, Bruce (David Mazouz).

Moved by his loss, the rookie detective vows to catch the killer.

While navigating the shadowy world of Gotham's criminal justice system, Gordon crosses paths with gang boss Fish Mooney (Jada Pinkett Smith), mob kingpin Carmine Falcone (John Dorman), and many of the

characters who will become iconic villains.

They include a teenage Selina Kyle/Catwoman (Camren Bicondova); pending Penguin Oswald Cobblepot (Robin Lord Taylor), and the future Riddler Edward Nygma (Cory Michael Smith).

For Blighty's own Sean Pertwee, landing the role of Bruce Wayne's guardian/butler Alfred Pennyworth, it was something of a dream come true.

He admits he was a fan of the classic 1960s Adam West TV saga growing up.

"Absolutely. The famous shark scene stuck in my mind," Sean explains. "I've been a fan of the series right the way through."

"To be involved with a re-imaging of something I've loved is vaguely terrifying, but also not that it's out there, we are delighted that I think we've pleased the legions of fans and the legions of new fans that we hope to bring to it. We're very proud."

Perhaps the best companion for Gotham is Superman origins

series Smallville, which ran for a decade.

Is Sean prepared for the fact he could spend at least the next 10 years of his life filming in New York?

"Well that suits me fine," he explains. "Don't get me wrong: I love my home – I get very homesick when I watch Chelsea; I miss my home, but I can't tell you how lucky and proud I feel to be here."

The Gotham cast have become a close-knit family since production began. According to Pertwee, they "go to every table read together; we really try and keep our heads down and concentrate on the quality of the work."

As you'll see by this pilot, it's a stylish affair which may revisit the pivotal tragic alley shootings from Tim Burton's Batman and Christopher Nolan's Batman Begins, but then it becomes its own creature.

Like Gromit laying tracks in front of his runaway train, Sean Pertwee and the Gotham crew are busily trying to stay ahead of their production schedule while retaining the high production quality of this first instalment.



Ben McKenzie and David Mazouz star in Gotham, Monday, Channel 5, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

New Tricks

BBC1, 9pm

An elderly amateur sleuth who was a friend of Danny's is murdered, and he ends up embroiled in the case when his photo is found at the scene. However, the cold case copper becomes convinced that the secret to uncovering her real killer lies within the last case she was working on. Picking up where she left off, he travels to the village of Minchampton, where a woman was said to have been murdered by a local lad 25 years previously. Meanwhile, Sasha is left to cope with the investigating officer on the modern-day Miss Marple's murder – an overbearing contemporary from her Hendon training, by the name of DCI Grace Mackie – and Steve lets Gerry stay with him when he is evicted, but soon comes to regret the act of kindness.

TUESDAY

The Apprentice

BBC1, 9pm

New series. Alan Sugar begins his 10th search for new business blood – and the fourth since he changed the format from a multi-week job interview to the search for a partner, offering the hopefuls a £250,000 investment in a new start-up company. As usual, the millionaire host sets out his stall with

his introductory pep talk, after which the entrepreneurs are divided into teams and it's straight on with the first task – selling the past decade's worth of Apprentice goods in just one day. All the previous selling challenges' merchandise has been combined, and the teams – boys v girls, of course – must think outside the box to increase their margins. As in previous series, Nick Hewer and Karen Brady are Lord Sugar's eyes and ears, but the real fun comes in the boardroom, as the challenge is picked apart and the excuses come thick and fast, before the fired candidate takes a taxi ride home. Continues tomorrow. The Apprentice: You're Fired follows on BBC2.

WEDNESDAY

Waterloo Road

BBC1, 8pm

New series. Neil Pearson and Nicola Stephenson join the cast as new headmaster Vaughan Fitzgerald and his partner, art teacher Allie Westbrook, as Waterloo Road opens its doors for another new term. Vaughan is the kind of dynamic, forward-thinking chap the school needs, and while he and Allie are

madly in love, their home life is far from easy thanks to their blended family – they have four children between them from previous relationships, and none of them gets along. Meanwhile, Christine promises she will help Darren deal with his difficult situation at home, but nothing could prepare them for what happens when they try to confront his mother. Finally, George discovers the hard way why nobody messes with the Barry family.

THURSDAY

The Great Fire

ITV, 9pm

New series. Drama detailing the stories of the people of London during the Great Fire of 1666. Widower and single father Thomas Farriner is the king's baker, currently providing the Navy with bread and biscuits from his Pudding Lane bakery. His sister-in-law Sarah often helps out at the shop – a distraction from the fact her



The Great Fire, Thursday, ITV, 9pm

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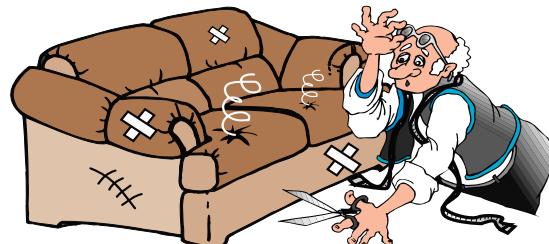
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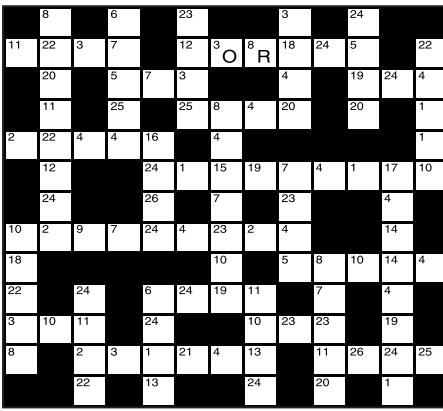
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*ASK FOR DETAILS



Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

F	S	G	O	K	W	M	E	P	Y	U	N
R	D	I	X	H	Z	B	T	J	A	Q	V

Quiz

- In Shakespeare's play, who killed Macbeth?
- What type of animal is a macaque?
- In which county is RAF aerodrome Manston?
- Which actress was born Vera Jayne Palmer?
- Which annual 24-hour motor race was founded in 1923?
- Who wrote the Just So Stories in 1902?
- Of which island group is Luzon the largest?
- In which Dutch city was Rembrandt born?
- On which river is Keighley?
- With which country did England wage the War of Jenkins's Ear?

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

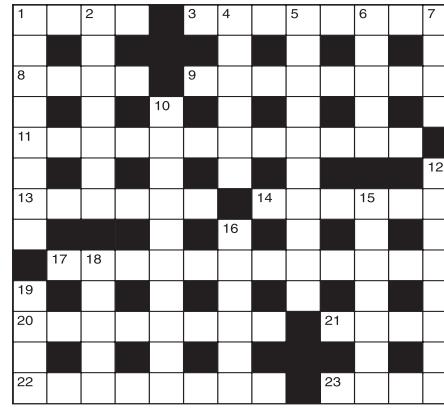
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Defender in reverse? (4)
- Going for match point? (8)
- Just the man to cause a lady to lose her head? (4)
- Nothing at the top of the row shows colour (6)
- Unmanageable car ferry to change hands (10)
- Tear about after one and become angry (5)
- No sad song, obviously (4)
- Not leaving bequests alone as one wishes? (2,4)
- Does he beat the air angrily to solve his problems? (9,3)
- Scholar was a rotter to cut up mice (8)
- Worker one takes to be opposed (4)
- Hated trial indeed! (8)
- Observe article boil (6)
- Does she have high-flying notions of entertainment? (3-7)
- Flatter in a mild sort of way? (8)
- Why babyhood is never real? (7)
- We hail for some time (6)
- Respond to influence at rehearsal? (5)
- One of the two the worker has, presumably (4)
- Legend of gloomy things (4)

Down

- Hold aloft a food vessel (8)
- Had race as party game, perhaps (7)
- Nothing at the top of the row shows colour (6)
- Unmanageable car ferry to change hands (10)
- Tear about after one and become angry (5)
- See eye to eye. Down: 2 Heart; 3 Raincoat; 4 Pin off; 5 Decor; 6 Spaniel; 7 Broddingnag; 8 Spirit well; 9 House; 10 Esparto; 11 Lessee; 12 Bastard; 21 Armonia
- Entire (8)
- Storm (4)
- Illeit (8)
- Go-between (12)
- Attic (6)
- Writer (6)
- Teacher (12)
- Revered (8)
- Harvest (4)
- Led (8)
- Leave out (4)



Quick Clues:

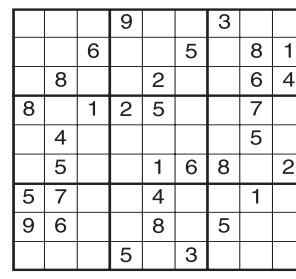
Across

- Jetty (4)
- Entire (8)
- Storm (4)
- Supposed (6)
- Countrified (10)
- Senior (5)
- Merit (4)
- Uncertain (10)
- Effete (8)
- Meantime (7)
- Maintain (6)
- Light boat (5)
- Lash (4)

Down

- Wedding (8)
- Barge (7)
- See eye to eye. Down: 2 Heart; 3 Raincoat; 4 Pin off; 5 Decor; 6 Spaniel; 7 Broddingnag; 8 Spirit well; 9 House; 10 Esparto; 11 Lessee; 12 Bastard; 21 Armonia
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- Teacher (12)
- Revered (8)
- Harvest (4)
- Led (8)
- Leave out (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

5	9	8	6	4	2	7	3	1
3	7	2	5	1	9	8	4	6
4	1	6	8	3	7	2	5	9
2	8	7	4	6	3	9	1	5
1	5	3	2	9	8	6	7	4
9	6	4	7	5	1	3	8	2
8	4	9	1	7	6	5	2	3
6	2	1	3	8	5	4	9	7
7	3	5	9	2	4	1	6	8

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Chiropodist; 9 Realist; 10 Clasp; 11 Bathie; 12 Furred; 13 Impule; 15 Zealot; 18 Goodbye; 20 Plate; 22 Abuts; 23 Strange; 24 See eye to eye. Down: 2 Heart; 3 Raincoat; 4 Pin off; 5 Decor; 6 Spaniel; 7 Broddingnag; 8 Spirit well; 9 House; 10 Esparto; 11 Lessee; 12 Bastard; 21 Armonia

QUICK - Across: 1 Contraption; 9 Amateur; 10 Theme; 11 Heeds; 12 Prevail; 13 Offend; 15 Cleric; 18 Bridgade; 20 Odium; 22 Learn; 23 Erosion; 24 Necessitate. Down: 2 Orate; 3 Treason; 4 Abrupt; 5 Title; 6 Open air; 7 Fashionable; 8 Replacement; 14 Forsake; 16 Look-out; 17 Revels; 19 Duncle; 21 Idiot.

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

84764 gives a French river,
344 gives a British river,
12695284 gives a Scottish port.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Last new home at an executive development



BUILT by Selbourne Homes, this luxury four-bedroomed detached family home in Electric Avenue, High Street, Kingswinford, is the last plot on the development.

Recently completed and fitted with carpets, this executive home is ready to move into. It is for sale through Billingham Taylor at £250,000.

Its briefly comprises an entrance hall, downstairs WC, full length lounge with French doors to garden, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility room, four good-sized bedrooms (master en-suite) and a family bathroom.

Call (01384) 234900 or see www.billinghamtaylor.co.uk



Well-maintained house is for sale in Netherton



A WELL-MAINTAINED three-bedroomed semi-detached property in Lombard Avenue, Netherton, is in a popular residential area. It is for sale through The Property Shop at £149,950.

It has an entrance hall with under stairs storage, a lounge with a marble effect hearth housing an electric fire, a breakfast kitchen with part tiled walls and a tiled floor, an integrated electric oven, gas hob, fridge and freezer.

There are three bedrooms, a bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing, driveway, a garage and a rear garden.

For further information contact The Property Shop on (01384) 456 022 or visit www.thepropertyshop.co.uk website.



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AMBLECOTE FOR SALE £155,000 Semi Detached Property with NO UPWARD CHAIN, having had a full refurbishment to include high quality kitchen, bathroom and shower room. Comprises of: Lounge, Fully Fitted Kitchen with Integrated Appliances, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms and a Shower Room	WORDLEY FOR SALE £159,950 Semi Detached House with NO UPWARD CHAIN comprising of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/ Dining Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front and Rear Gardens, Garage, Driveway.	KINGSWINFORD FOR SALE £127,500 Semi Detached Property comprising of: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, GARAGE.	WOLLASTON FOR SALE £149,950 Refurbished property finished to a very high standard.Comprises of: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, GARAGE.
KING WILLIAM STREET FOR SALE £155,000 Semi Detached Property with NO UPWARD CHAIN, having had a full refurbishment to include high quality kitchen, bathroom and shower room. Comprises of: Lounge, Fully Fitted Kitchen with Integrated Appliances, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms and a Shower Room	BALMORAL ROAD FOR SALE £159,950 Semi Detached House with NO UPWARD CHAIN comprising of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/ Dining Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front and Rear Gardens, Garage, Driveway.	GREENFIELDS ROAD FOR SALE £127,500 Semi Detached Property comprising of: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens.	LARKHILL ROAD FOR SALE £149,950 Refurbished property finished to a very high standard.Comprises of: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens.
BRIERLEY HILL FOR SALE £100,000 Well Presented, Modern Ground Floor Apartment. Comprises of: Entrance Hall with Store, Spacious Lounge, Large Kitchen/ Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Bath, En Suite. Benefits include: Electric Heating, Off Road Parking and Visitor Parking.	TIVIDALE FOR SALE £159,950 Modern Terrace House, Entrance, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Allocated Parking Space, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	DUDLEY FOR SALE £149,950 Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.	DUDLEY FOR SALE £149,950 Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Shower, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished.
NORTH STREET FOR SALE £100,000 Well Presented, Modern Ground Floor Apartment. Comprises of: Entrance Hall with Store, Spacious Lounge, Large Kitchen/ Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Bath, En Suite. Benefits include: Electric Heating, Off Road Parking and Visitor Parking.	ALEXANDRA WAY £495 ppcm* Modern Terrace House, Entrance, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Allocated Parking Space, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	LIMES ROAD £525 ppcm* Modern Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.	BLACKTHORNE ROAD £560 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Shower, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished.
KINGSWINFORD FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	WORDLEY FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	LAKESIDE £510 ppcm* First Floor Flat. Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	WALL HEATH £775 ppcm* Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Carport, Off road parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.
SELDLEY FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	KINGSWINFORD FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	LODGE LANE FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	BRIERLEY HILL FOR SALE £159,950 Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room, Separate Toilet, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.
WESTFIELD ROAD £575 ppcm* Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.	MANOR PARK £525 ppcm* Semi-Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Three Reception Rooms, Utility Room, Four/Five Bedrooms, Ensuite, Family Bathroom, Double Garage, Gas Central Heating, Drive, Front & Rear Gardens	KINGSWINFORD £1095 ppcm* End Terrace House, Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Two/ Three Reception Rooms, Utility Room, Four/Five Bedrooms, Double Garage, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens	TYZACK CLOSE £725 ppcm* Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED
TIPTON £395 ppcm* Excellent Modern First Floor Flat, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Garden to Rear, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Electric Heating, UNFURNISHED	OLDBURY £695 ppcm* Modern Top Floor Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, En Suite Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking	WOLLASTON £695 ppcm* Refurbished Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/ Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Gardens, GARAGE.	WALL HEATH £425 ppcm* First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished.
NIGHTINGALE DRIVE £395 ppcm* Excellent Modern First Floor Flat, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Garden to Rear, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Electric Heating, UNFURNISHED	REGENT COURT £525 ppcm* Modern Top Floor Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, En Suite Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking	LARKHILL ROAD £625 ppcm* Refurbished Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Open Plan Lounge/ Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road parking, Gardens, GARAGE.	KINGSWINFORD £575 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.
SELDLEY £750 ppcm* Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.	PENNETT £525 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.	COSELEY £525 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished.	KINGSWINFORD £750 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Large Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking
HAMILTON CLOSE £750 ppcm* Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.	MULLETT STREET £525 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished.	LILIAN GROVE £575 ppcm* End Terrace House, Lounge, Kitchen, Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished.	DUDLEY ROAD 750 ppcm* Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Large Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking
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(Administration/application fees will apply)

TOWN & COUNTRY

PROPERTY SERVICES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



GREENSFORGE LANE STOURTON

An elegant and impressive house set in a mature wooded setting offering both seclusion and privacy and being close to Stourbridge, having excellent road links and schools. The accommodation comprises of: Reception Hall, drawing room, library, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, games room, conservatory, cloakroom, cellar, master bedroom with en-suite, five further bedrooms and two bathrooms. The property further boasts integral garaging, driveway affording parking, beautiful terraced garden with mature woodland, all weather tennis court and outbuildings. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO £5000PCM DEPOSIT £10000 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

BELBROUGHTON ROAD STOURBRIDGE

A beautifully presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a much sought after residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, downstairs WC, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, integral garage, driveway affording off road parking and rear garden..

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO £775PCM DEPOSIT £875 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

VICAR STREET SEDGLEY

An extremely well presented three bedroom detached property with accommodation to comprise of: kitchen, lounge/diner, master bedroom with en-suite, two further bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing, central heating, tarmac driveway affording off road parking to the fore, garage with separate boiler store and to the rear of the property there is a patio, lawned garden and timber shed. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£695PCM DEPOSIT £795 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

CLARENCE STREET SEDGLEY

An extremely well presented two bedroom terrace property situated in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises of lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: MAY CONSIDER CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM- DEPOSIT £625 + FEES

ELBOW STREET CRADLEY HEATH



A two bedroom unfurnished apartment situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Communal entrance hall, private reception, lounge, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom with shower. The property also benefits from electric storage heating, double glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£480PCM DEPOSIT £580 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

DADFORD VIEW BRIERLEY HILL

A well presented two bedroom modern starter home situated in a popular development with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

MORVALE GARDENS LYME

A spacious and extremely well presented two bedroom ground floor apartment with accommodation to comprise of: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts Gas central heating, double glazing, communal gardens and en-bloc garage. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£425PCM DEPOSIT £525 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

KINGS MEWS KINGS COURT

A modern one bedroom ground floor apartment situated in walking distance of Wollaston Village with accommodation to comprise of: Communal entrance hall, private entrance hall, lounge/kitchen, shower room and bedroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, electric heating, off road communal parking and decked patio area. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£395PCM DEPOSIT £495 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

QUARRY PARK ROAD STOURBRIDGE

An impressive seven bedroom detached family home situated in a very sought after location and being close to Hagley Village. The accommodation comprises of: Grand reception hall, sitting room, dining room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall, seven double bedrooms five of which have en-suite shower rooms, bathroom, built in wardrobes and a spacious first floor landing/ seating area with door out to a balcony. The property further boasts paved areas for parking, single garage with up and over garage doors and landscaped lawned gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£3995PCM DEPOSIT £4095 + FEES

NEW
INSTRUCTION

COT LANE KINGSWINFOR

A stylish, superbly appointed and spacious four bedroom detached family home situated at this highly sought after location and close to all local amenities. The accommodation comprises of: Canopy entrance, reception hall, walk in under stairs store, cloakroom, lounge, open plan dining/kitchen, utility room, conservatory, four bedrooms (master en-suite), bathroom and garage. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, double glazing, block paved driveway and rear garden. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

1200PCM DEPOSIT £1300 + FEES



COCHRANE CLOSE PEDMORE

A prestigious four bedroom detached property situated in a highly desirable residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, double reception hall, kitchen, dining room, four bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing, garage. Private entrance leading to parking, carpeted stairs, forward and rear lawned garden and patio. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£1200PCM DEPOSIT £1300 - FEES

£950PCM DEPOSIT £1050 - FEES



IBIS GARDENS KINGSWINFOR

An extremely well presented three bedroom terrace property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Reception hall, WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, gas central heating, majority double glazing and front and rear gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£650PCM DEPOSIT £750 + FEES

£650PCM DEPOSIT £650 + FEES



MAYNARD AVENUE NORTON

A well presented three bedroom terrace property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Reception hall, WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, gas central heating, majority double glazing and front and rear gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£550 DEPOSIT £650 + FEES



PAVILION GARDENS DUDLEY

A well presented two bedroom modern semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having garage, driveway affording off road parking, gas central heating and double glazing and enclosed rear garden and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£550 DEPOSIT £650 + FEES



WATERWAYS DRIVE OLD BURY

An extremely well presented two bedroom semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing and enclosed rear garden and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£535PCM DEPOSIT £635 + FEES



WESTFIELD ROAD QUARRY

A well presented three bedroom semi-detached property with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing and enclosed rear garden affording off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM DEPOSIT £625 + FEES



HAGLEY ROAD HALESOWEN

A deceptively spacious three bedroom first floor flat situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Private entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom and separate WC. The property further benefits from having night storage heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKING: NO

£425PCM DEPOSIT £525 + FEES

£395PCM DEPOSIT £495 + FEES



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FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY

A well presented and recently refurbished one bedroom semi-detached house situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, fitted kitchen, first floor landing with built in airing cupboard, bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, bin store, allocated parking, gas central heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£395PCM DEPOSIT £495 + FEES



LOWER HIGH STREET

A well presented one bedroom second floor apartment situated in the heart of Stourbridge. The property further benefits from having gas central heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£375PCM- DEPOSIT £475 + FEES

Roadside assistance is extended to older cars

More than 325,000 owners of Mazda cars that are out of initial warranty period will be able to take advantage of a new roadside assistance scheme launched by Mazda UK in partnership with Allianz Global Assistance.

The scheme covers Mazda cars that are between three and 10 years old and up to 100,000 miles and reflects demand from buyers of used Mazdas who want the same level of roadside

assistance that owners of new Mazda cars get, explained Mazda UK After-sales Director David Wilson-Green.

Priced at £89, which is less than similar schemes offered by other breakdown companies, the scheme can be bought from Mazda's dealer network. It includes vehicle recovery to a Mazda authorised repair centre in the event of an accident or breakdown, puncture assistance, as well as helping drivers who have run out of fuel and even those that have lost their keys.

"We have seen increased demand for the continuation of the Roadside Assistance Package service we provide new car customers for the first three years of the vehicle life so by adding this service to our suite, our customers have a full range of after-sales products and services that meet their needs," said Wilson-Green.

"We have been working with Allianz Global Assistance for a long time now and are confident that together we continue to deliver best in class services."



Couple win Suzuki Swift

Commercial feature

Stourport couple John and Annie Laidlaw are celebrating this week after taking delivery of their new Suzuki Swift.

John was a contestant randomly picked from a 16,000 strong audience at 'Ant and Dec's Takeaway On Tour' when it came to the LG Arena, Birmingham, in August.

Having answered a string of topical general knowledge questions, John won! The star prize was a brand new Swift supplied by UK Automobile Suzuki and delivered by Clarks of Kidderminster.

John and Annie already own a Kia Soul which they bought from Clarks of Kidderminster Kia back in February this year. John really enjoys driving the Soul so Annie will drive the Swift as she loves the car, it's perfect for her commute and it's in her favourite colour, red.

The Suzuki Swift SZ3 comes with alloy wheels, air-conditioning, Bluetooth, and daytime running lights. With its super efficient 1.2 petrol engine it costs just £30 a year in road fund tax. The whole package is worth £12,359, however at the moment Clarks' customers can pick one up VAT free for just £10,299!

What's more, the award-winning Suzuki Swift range starts from only £8,999, a real bargain for this high-

ly equipped, stylish and economical car. A Euro NCAP safety rating of 5 stars gives you peace of mind and a car you can rely on. Add to all this the exceptional driving experience of the super cool hatchback and it really is a car to rival all others in its class. Clarks of Kidderminster currently have some great rates of finance, including 0 per cent APR, so there's never been a better time to become a Suzuki owner.

If you'd like to know more details about the Swift or the great finance packages available, you can call Andy Gurnett at Clarks on 01562 862 822 or pop in for a chat and a test drive, we're sure you'll be as impressed as winners John and Annie. We wish them many years of happy motoring in their new Swift!



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3dr, 52k, Grey Metallic, Alloys, Air Con
£5295 / £29 Per Week



08/07 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTI Diesel 16V
Life, only 31k miles, Silver, Air Con, CD
£4995 / £31 Per Week



09/09 Kia Rio 3 CRDI,
62k, *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX*,
Silver, Alloys, Park Sensors
£4995 / £31 Per Week



07/07 Renault Clio 1.6
Privilege Automatic, ONLY 28k MILES*,
Beige, Alloys, Air Con
£4795 / £29 Per Week

Finance example: Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTI Diesel, Cash Price £4995, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 12% APR, 48 Payments of £122.28 (£30.50 per week) Total amount payable £6169.44 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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Audi's armchair motoring

By Graham Breeze

It had been a while since last driving the Audi A6 Allroad Quattro so a 300 mile motorway journey was the perfect test.

Because make no mistake the 3.0BiTDi (313PS) version is the perfect motorway cruiser with just about everything you could want for that long and boring trip.

If armchair style comfort isn't enough to keep you happy then an engine which punches from 0-62mph in less than six seconds and will top speed at 155mph should keep you interested.

This A6 really does have the wow factor or enough X-factor to keep even Simon Cowell satisfied.



Complete with an eight-speed Tiptronic gear system this third generation A6 is stylish, comfortable and exciting to drive once you've remembered how to operate the maze of electronic add-ons which Audi has become famous for.

The recipe Audi follows to make the A6 Allroad hasn't changed much over the years but the concept has matured to meet the demands of the modern day motorist.

Adjustable air suspension is now used differently to raise the car only when needed, rather than giving the car a permanently raised off-road look. This adds to the eye-catching appearance which means that, although there are thousands of A6s on our roads, they still command a second glance.

Handle

The benefits of the four wheel drive system are immediately obvious and the A6 Allroad is a dream to handle, both on the motorway or on country roads.

Being able to dip the accelerator pedal at high speed and get an immediate and beautifully throaty response was the best part of driving this A6, meaning you could accelerate your way out of any motorway situation with ease.

Equipment levels are high, with all A6 models getting the MMI navigation system, leather upholstery, 18-inch alloy wheels, front and rear parking sensors and hill descent control.

The test car would set you back just over £49,000 but with the added extras that price shoots to £60,000.

For the extra £11,000 you get power door closing, a range-topping technology pack which gives MMI Navigation Plus,



'Audi success story goes on and on and if you're not frightened off by the price the A6 Allroad is a good 'choice'

Audi connect, a music interface, stop/start system and lane assist warning and lots of other add-ons.

There is also a Bose surround sound system, heated front seats and a glove compartment mounted CD changer.

What not to forget is that this is a five-door estate in layman terms and that means enough space in the boot area to help you move house. And with the rear seats folded flat its spacious enough to act as back-up for the local undertaker.

There are lots of practical touches, in-

cluding straps, lashing points and a rail-based system for securing luggage.

The Allroad is brimming with safety equipment, including six airbags and stability control. Optional extras include rear side airbags.

While the cabin is typically Audi - spacious and comfortable - the one surprise is in the rear where carrying three passengers is not a comfortable proposition.

The Audi success story just goes on and on and if you're not frightened off by the price the A6 Allroad is a good choice.



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The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Model shown: SX4 S-Cross 1.6 S25 available at £20,249 on the road. SX4 S-Cross range - SX4 S-Cross 1.6 S23 Manual available at £15,499 to On the road price valid from 1st October 2014 to 31st December 2014. Model shown - SX4 S-Cross 1.6 S25 Manual (metallic paint available at £630). For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st October 2014 to 31st December 2014 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. **Offer applies to private customers and the first registered vehicle only; 3 routine manufacturer services covering 3 years or 37,500 miles (whichever comes sooner) by Suzuki franchised dealers or service partners only. Terms & Conditions apply, see [Suzuki.co.uk/cars/freeservicing](http://suzuki.co.uk/cars/freeservicing) for details. Offer available on registrations of Suzuki SX4 S-Cross between 1st October 2014 and 31st December 2014, subject to availability, at Suzuki franchised dealers based in the UK, Channel Islands, Shetland and Isle of Man only. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated.



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**8
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cars over £1500
CHRYSLER YPSILON 1.2 SE, 2dr, one owner, lady owner, 11,000 miles, FSH, under warranty, £6,300. 07729 836144.

CITROEN C3 1.4 Cachet, 08 reg, MOT, 5 door, 50,000 miles, MOT, excellent condition, £1,795. 07975 674306.

FORD FIESTA STYLE, 2008, black, 73k, 1.25, MOT, air con, e/w, e/m, 5 door, new MOT, £2,395. 07944 713707.

FORD FIESTA Titanium 1.4 diesel, 3-dr, 09, 45k miles, 6 months MOT, £4,995.00. 01384 279910.

FORD FOCUS 1.6 TITANIUM, 3DR, 55 reg, 63k, Tax to November, Mot to May 2015, leather, alloys, CD, Car D, 1.65, £60. 07738 973240.

HONDA CIVIC 1.6, 1.6, 5dr, 09, 45k miles, 6 months MOT, £5,000. 07975 674411.

KIA CERATO 5 door, black, 07, full MOT, CD player, alloy wheels, very clean, cheap to run, £2,150. 07535 074158.

PEUGEOT 207, 5 door, black, 07, full MOT, CD player, alloy wheels, very clean, cheap to run, £2,150. 07535 074158.

RENAULT CLIO 2007, 5 door, 1.2, silver, 09, 45k miles, 6 months MOT, £5,000. 07975 674411.

RENAULT MEGANE 2007, 1.6, 5dr, 09, 45k miles, 6 months MOT, £5,000. 07975 674411.

RENAULT CLIO RS1 2000 reg, good condition, low mileage, only 2 owners, Nearest £1,200. 01902 451656 after 3.30pm.

RENAULT MEGANE 2002, 1.9DCi Dynamique, 11 months tax, Mot March 2015, 73,000 miles, alloy wheels, 6 disc CD changer, good condition. £875.00. 07888 512845.

ROVER 45 1.4, 5 door, 12 months MOT, one owner, 05 plate, £795.00. 07510 073130. 07802 694664.

ROVER STERLING 827 1995, 4dr saloon, 2675cc, full working condition. £700. 0121 550 6032.

TOYOTA CELICA 1.8, petrol, silver, 5dr, one owner, 05 plate, £1,400. 01902 562240. 07989 539449.

TOYOTA YARIS SR VVTi, 52 reg, 1.3, new clutch, track rod ends. £600. 01902 724487.

TRIUMPH SPITFIRE, 1974, Mk IV, 1500cc, one owner, dry stored, body work good, engine good, restoration project. 07815 594002.

VOLVO V40 AUTO 2001, Estate, 69,000 miles, green, abs, air bag, air con, alarm, long MOT, metallic paint, pas, alloys, CD, good runner. £995. 01902 632182.

VW GOLF, blue, Y reg 2001, MK4 1.9SDI, 5 door, 112k miles, Mot, CD, a/c, pas, electric windows, £1,150.00. 07754 557861.

RENAULT CLIO EXTREME

2010, 13,888 miles, silver,

electric windows, air bag, fish,

MoT, metallic paint, central

locking, one owner, tax, CD.

£4,650.00. 01902 677876.

RENAULT KANGOO 1.2, 16v, 08,

govining mobility, 11 months,

13100 miles, excellent, tinted

windows, £3,550. 01902 791116.

SEAT AROSA 2003, 31,252 miles,

long MOT, good condition,

lady owner, genuine reason for

sale, £1,995.00. 01902 754818.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi

2008, black, Ish, 67k, alloys,

CD/ipod, 10 months MoT, new

timing chain, full service, 15

Sept, very good condition,

lady owner, £3,300.

01902 788391/07966 431685

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.25, 55 plate,

08, black, full service history,

12 months MOT, excellent

condition. £1,845. 07961 513840.

VEV PASSAT 2010, Hi Line Estate,

TDI, 1.6, 5 door, one owner,

leather, 103k, Mot. £5,995.

01384 274518 or 07703 540507.

VAUXHALL CORSA, 2002, 51,000

miles, black, full service history,

12 months MOT, excellent

condition. £1,845. 07961 513840.

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CATH 37y old very bored housewife seeking bored male for some fun times. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414197

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeking days time fun at her home. ACA. Tel: No: 0905 002 1961 Box No: 40527

ANN looking for no strings adult fun, broadminded and great fun, blonde, attractive and discreet. Call me. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414363

ANNA, bustly mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel: No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

JANE 51fins blue eyed attractive curly mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSoh. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414228

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very adventurous seeks no strings funs and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. Tel: No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 410127

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414213

GILLY, voluptuous well groomed lady, seeks man to massage and pamper. Married exciting men please apply. Tel: No: 0905 002 1933 Box No: 412933

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet blue eyed blonde looking for mature gent for some uncomplicated fun. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412020

SALLY, 36yrs discreet broad-shouldered lady seeks absolutely no strings adult fun, any age/area. ACA. Tel: No: 0905 002 1945 Box No: 410575

ANNABELLE 29 slim beautiful sophisticated sensual blonde, loves the high life, Champaign lunches, weekends away, sees very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414191

RACHAEL, 36yrs, looking good for a age but need some daytime excitement. All text's answered. Box 4507091 Text Only

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SARAH 38y old bored blonde seeking single guys up for some good times, chats and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414177

DIANNA, down to earth single mum. Kids at school and bored all time. Come round and see me, or text and chat. Discretion assured. Box 4507092 Text Only

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult friendship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413853

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

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RETIRED male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/unimportant. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413067

TONY young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413049

KEVIN 53, looking for a friend/partner and a lover. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412869

NORTH Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412867

MAURICE gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412859

MALE seeking female companion for outings, friendship and holidays. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412705

STEPHEN 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, plus for companionship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412633

MALCOLM 61, smker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pub, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412523

TONY 52, dark hair, white, 6ft, confident, GSOH, seeks black female. Generic ad. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412481

ALAN tall widower, 76, looking for female of similar age who enjoys meals out, holidays, walks and holidays. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412261

ROY mid 60's, N/S, car driver, young outlook, seeks for friendship. West Bromwich area. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412083

TALL 42y old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412483

SEAN 47, 5ft 8ins, average looks, seeking genuine, honest, caring female. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413945

PHIL 57, medium build, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414063

MALE requiring female company, enjoys evenings in, sports and more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414059

GEORGE 60 seeks Asian/Oriental female for no strings fun and weekends away. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413707

STEVE 60, seeks slim blonde for no strings fun and weekends away. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413703

MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989

ROBERT 59, N/S, slim, seeks attractive slim female for discreet no strings friendship and fun. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413655

MALE 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun. Must accept. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413819

ALAN 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801

TALL mature male, seeks younger, attractive mixed race lady for spoiling and pampering. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411505

PHIL genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings fun. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183

DEE 49, divorced, handsome, fit, slim, seeks lady, any age for lasting, meaningful relationship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411415

MALE 47, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412053

MALE 40's, discreet, seeks black male, under 30 for fun and friendship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412415

MATTHEW 25, educated, arts, dogs, travel, classic cars, comedy, seeks similar older male for days out, holidays and work. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411673

CHRISTIAN 25, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413193

JOHN 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461

ROB 51, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183

TONY young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim rock chick or similar for relationship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413278

6FT 1in slim, dark hair, likes walking, animals, seeking medium build female, 60-80 for company and conversation. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413193

JEFF young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412727

MALE 40's, discreet, seeks black male, under 30 for fun and friendship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412415

YOUNG male, 25, educated, arts, dogs, travel, classic cars, comedy, seeks similar older male for days out, holidays and work. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412463

PROMOTIONAL ADVERT OF THE WEEK



FELICITY, I'm quite posh and spoilt, 23yrs, Just left uni and looking for some adventures with an older gent. Box No: 4507090 Text only

ANNABELL 29 slim sophisticated well travelled interesting sensual fit blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/mic, just chillin, seeking easygoing mate for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412027

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special friend to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927

KAREN slim, tall, attractive 36y old normal female who likes shopping, socialising, nights in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412177

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/mic, just chillin, seeking easygoing mate for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412057

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. ACA. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive blonde who loves pub, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for posse. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005

ROSA 27 very sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/sex unimportant. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927

ANGIE attractive blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410641

KATHERINE 35y old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male also looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410755

PAULINE attractive divorced female with no ties, employed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of TLC to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411039

JEN attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's what you pls get in touch. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949

KIM 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSoh, varied interests, likes romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving male for it. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577

YOUNG early 40's female, GSoh, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691

CAROL young, 47, caring, loyal, likes music, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable, good friend. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo No strings, go on call me. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good nature, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar GSoh single dad. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413087

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

TINA sex black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519

ZOE 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meets. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409719

WENDY 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meets out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSoh for friendship, maybe more. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499

JEAN young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSoh, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTM sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411711

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you and he have nothing to loose call me for a chat. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691

NESTA black beauty, classy, intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415

CLAIRO voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, WLTM tall professional for romance and hopefully it. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410427

NESTA black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking male who can make me happy. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you and he have nothing to loose call me for a chat. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415

NESTA black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking male who can make me happy. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. Tel: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410610

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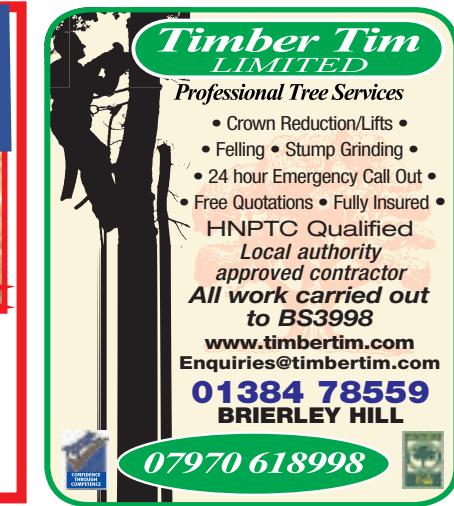
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Hill marks his 100th turnout with a win

Matlock 0

Halesowen Town 4

JOHN HILL celebrated his 100th game in charge with a thumping victory over Matlock, and to finally get the Yeltz's goal tally up into double figures.

Halesowen opened the scoring on 20 minutes, as Chris Lait's corner ball flew into the box and Joe Hull hit a rolling shot that found its way into the net.

Ben Haseley finally ended his goal drought in the league, as he latched on to Lyseden Christie's pass and he comfortably tucked the ball into the net to double The Yeltz's lead on 28 minutes.

Halesowen put the game out of Matlock's reach on 50 minutes, as Robert Thompson-Brown picked up the ball from 25 yards before smashing a rocket of a shot past a stunned Matlock defence and into the top left corner of the net.

Matlock's defence gave away a penalty on 84 minutes. Lait stood up to take it, and he comfortably slotted it into the left side of the net.

The game drew to an end, and with John Hill's record after 100 games being the second best in Halesowen's history, let's hope he can make it even better in the next 100.

Colts side shows their strength

Walsall Colts 15

DK Colts 20

THE Walsall team, who were missing a few of their regular players, produced a good performance against one of the strongest teams in the league but ultimately they were unable to overcome their visitors.

They were desperately unlucky to concede a late try, which deprived them of a deserved draw.

Jordan Lay has proved to be a key figure in the side as he continued to pile up the points this season.

The young winger scored all of the points for Walsall squad bagging himself two tries, a conversion and even adding in a penalty for good measure but DK proved the ultimate winners.

Third time unlucky for Tivs as Leek through

FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round Replay

Leek Town FC 1 Tividale FC 0

Tividale manager Ian Long had to replace some of the heroes of the 2-2 draw from these two teams' previous meeting.

With Andy Parsons and Richard Huckfield still out injured he now had to contend with skipper Mark Smith being unavailable and David Bellis and Karl Edwards carrying injuries and not fit to start.

So now with three centre backs out on midfielde

er Mitchell Botfield had to move into the centre of defence alongside Luke Paskin.

Long then had to bring in Sam Williams

Football

who was playing his first game after being out for five weeks in alongside Chris Field in the middle of the park and Michael Warde come back from a dislocated shoulder to bolster the midfield.

In a fairly even opening 30 minutes it was the visitors who had the first real chance when Paskin headed wide from a sixth minute corner.

Paskin was then on hand at the other end when he put in a vital block on Leek

forward Liam Shotton in Tividale's area. The decisive goal came on 30 minutes when Leek's Paul Donnelly fired in what can only be described as a hard and low cross hit Botfield in the area and rolled agonisingly past the completely wrong footed Tividale keeper Charlie Price and into the net.

Tividale started the second half the brighter and a Jazz Luckie shot beat Leek's young keeper Bradley Moorhead but it was cleared off the line.

On 58 minutes a Zack Foster free kick was met by Botfield but Moorhead did well to dive down low to his right and turn it around the post. Shotton possibly should

have doubled the score on 67 minutes when through one-on-one on goal but Price blocked his effort.

With about 12 minutes to go, Tividale had two great chances first Lewis Taylor-Boyce had an effort well-saved then Luckie saw his shot flash agonisingly beyond Moorhead's far post.

Tividale were now throwing everything at Leek in the hunt for an equaliser.

As the game moved into injury time the chances just kept coming the closest being another Luckie shot that was somehow deflected over the crossbar by a defender and a Botfield header that flashed wide.

Starke's hunger is even keener

CRADLEY skipper Paul Starke insist he's hungrier than ever to win a second successive National League title with the club.

Heathers will face Coventry in the Grand Final after seeing off Mildenhall at the weekend - the home leg at Monmore Green takes place on Tuesday, October 21.

Starke says last year's glory under the Dudley banner has given him the appetite for more success.

He said: "It really has been an unbelievable couple of years since I joined Cradley, and it's just awesome how well we've done the last two seasons.

"It would be amazing for me personally as a rider if I could end up winning the title again.

"After doing so well last year it just made me hungrier to repeat that this year, and hopefully the other guys will be able to experience that feeling as well.

"It's good to be in a winning team and know what it's all about - you can appreciate that when you race in good teams in the future and it helps you become a winning rider."

Cradley's Knockout Cup Final dates with King's Lynn have been agreed as October 22 at Lynn with the decider at Monmore on October 28.

Slater gets club off to a great start

DUDLEY and Stourbridge Harriers got off to a flying start thanks to Lee Slater's performance in the National 6 Stage Road Relays at Sutton Park.

With a time of 18m 01s, Lee came home in 28th place a time that ranked him 58th fastest from 465 runners.

Dave Nation ran really well in 20.08 but could not hold the place as Dash dropped to 51st.

Third leg runner Dave Ratcliffe also had a good run in a time of 20.21 handing over to Ian Mansell in 64th. Ian held on running 21.06 as Robert Meredith on leg five ran 20.37, picking up one place to 64th. Last leg was run by Jordan Smith in 22.00 as Dash finished 64th.

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Hales' stunner rescues a point

Stourbridge 1 Ashton Utd 1

REECE Hales' stunning volley 14 minutes from time rescued a point for Stourbridge at the War Memorial Ground who were facing defeat by a single goal against their opponents.

Gary Hackett's men endured a largely frustrating afternoon until the break in proceedings where Hales struck to cancel out Philip Marsh's first half opener for Ashton.

Striker Marsh had given the visitors a 13th minute lead when he ran onto Richard Bennett's nod down and volleyed past home keeper Dean Coleman to open proceedings.

Even though the Glassboys dominated possession they had little to show for their efforts and it was Ashton who almost too the game away when they nearly doubled their lead soon after the break through Bennett.

The forward tried his luck with an audacious lob from 40 yards which was just turned over the bar by the back-peddling Coleman.

But Stourbridge's threat grew as the second half wore on and they were finally rewarded in the 76th minute as Hales turned and thumped an unstoppable volley past Ashton keeper Paul Phillips from 20 yards.

Tipton are taken down

Bromsgrove 2 Tipton 1
TIPTON'S Ble Pangue was among the goals and in the wars as the Black Country club gave some hint of a change of fortune.

Pangue put Tipton ahead in the 26th minute of the FA Vase second qualifying round tie.

Bromsgrove had pulled a goal back in the 65th minute through a far post header by Chris Conway, then Tipton conceded a spot-kick which Conway drilled home emphatically.

It was enough to see Bromsgrove through to the final whistle.

Mike Wardle and Ben Hadley returned to bring an urgency to the team's play that had been missing this season, and helped give Bromsgrove a run for their money.

Overall this was a most encouraging effort by the Black Country lads.

Let's go up and keep Sako, urges Edwards

DAVE EDWARDS has urged Wolves to win promotion again so they can keep Bakary Sako.

Sako is out of contract at the end of the season and has scored five goals in the first 11 games.

Wolves boss Kenny Jackett wants to keep the Mali international, but having signed when the club had just been relegated from the Premier League, the 26-year-old's £25,000-a-week earnings fall well above the levels of the current squad.

"We're lucky to have him and hopefully we can go up to the Premier League to-

gether so the club hasn't got a decision to make on his contract," said Edwards.

"But I'm sure the club are doing all they can to keep him."

"It's up to Sako and the club to see what happens but it will definitely make it easier to keep him if we're in the Premier League next season."

"Hopefully that's something we can achieve. He's a Premier League player – everyone at the club knows that because

he's got so much ability." Sako was Wolves' equal 13-goal top scorer last season and Edwards believes the former St Etienne wideman has become a major player for the club.

"The season we got relegated he was our best player and then last season his goals and assists were there for all to see, as they are this year," said the Wales international.

"He's a key player because even if he's having a bad game, he can produce that moment of quality."

"He did it on Wednesday and Saturday to try to get us back into the game."

"He's a very good professional and he's

got that quality you really need in this league – he's one of those who's going to give his all."

Edwards believes Sako will hit double figures again.

"He's always going to get double figures with the power he's got in his left foot and the finesse we saw with Saturday's finish," he said.

"He is a great finisher – he's got so much power that a lot of the time the ball is past the goalkeeper before they can see it. I can only dream of hitting a ball that hard but you also have to look at the assists he gets."

Weekend success for DK

IT was a successful weekend for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club.

With local races at Kinver and Badger, Shropshire clashing on the day runners were spoilt for choice.

At Kinver a group of blue hoops set out on a 10k course for one of the toughest road races in the area.

The route, effectively three miles of climbing followed more three miles of descent.

Ben Foster claimed victory taking first in 35.20 from West Bromwich Harrier, James Jefferson, after a titanic struggle with the DK runner edging it by six seconds.

Dave Norman was second back for the club taking 13th place in 41.17 from Garry Bonner in 20th in 42.16.

Helen Tromans finished in 31st overall in 45.15 to claim second in the ladies race with Carol Fisher also claiming an age group prize in 51.48 in 51st place. Meanwhile at Badger over twenty DK members ran the 6k race, The Badger Bite, so named because of a steep hill. Rob Sannwald came in 4th place in 24.08.

Villa's game is switched for TV

VILLA'S home game against Leicester has been moved to Sunday, December 7 with a 4pm kick-off for live television coverage.

Albion have had none of their December games switched to cater for TV coverage. On Boxing Day Chelsea v West Ham will be on Sky at 12.45pm, with Man United v Newcastle at 3pm.

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A SINGLE POINT EDGES OUT STOUR

Stourbridge 29 Cald 30

STOUR'S injury crisis was such that the matchday squad featured three debutants.

The team started Dale Garner, who was making an appearance at tighthead prop, and loanee Jack Lea as hooker. All credit to the team then for nearly sneaking the result at the end, but they succumbed to a third defeat.

Stour were first on the scoreboard when winger Jamie Hearn slotted an early penalty after a Calderynner strayed offside.

Caldy outside-half Ben Jones pulled the scores back a few moments later though when a tackler failed to roll away quickly enough.

Flanker Nyle Davidson crashed over on the half hour mark.

Caldy centre Jack Lavin benefitted from a mismatch in the defensive line to extend the lead further.

Hearn couldn't convert though so it was 22-27 on the hour mark.

Stour looked to keep the ball alive but another penalty for holding on was converted by Jones to re-establish a two-score lead.

The home side were straight back in attack though, forcing a two-man overlap that was spurned when an attempted pass missed the target.

Disaster struck when Harper was penalised for holding on in the tackle. Jones slotted another kick at goal.

Stourbridge then saw the three-quarter defences drawn all too easily to the inside channels as the ball was worked wide for winger Nick Royle to enjoy a simple run-in. Stour drove a maul to the tryline and

The visitors forced a turnover and recorded their first victory at Stourton Park.



Second row Ben Hughes on the attack for Stourbridge against Cald 30 who gained their first victory at the ground

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